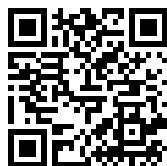

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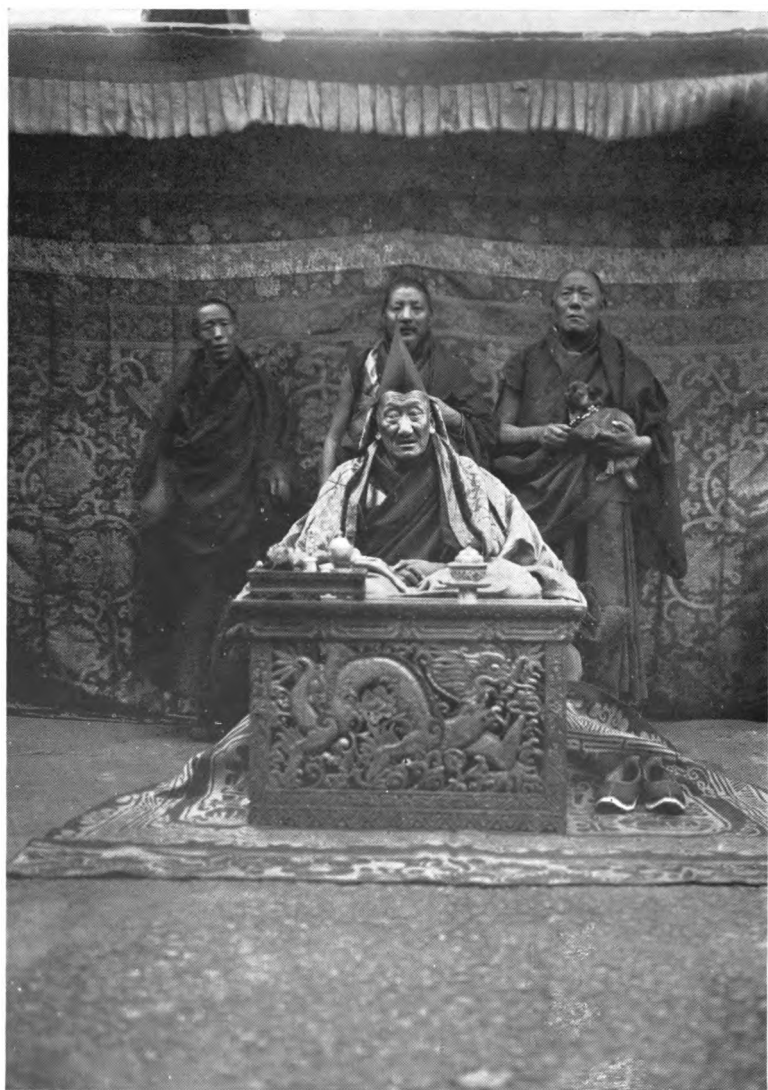
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THE KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS CHRONICLE
FOR 1921.



THE ABBOT OF THE SHEKAR MONASTERY.

THE
ROYAL RIFLE CORPS
CHRONICLE

1921

EDITED BY

MAJOR HUTTON, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., *p.s.c.*
(*General*).

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GENERAL H. MENDES, C.B.

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COLONEL LEWIS BUTLER, *p.s.c.*

COLONEL W. J. LONG, C.M.G.

OF THE FOUR REGULAR BATTALIONS,

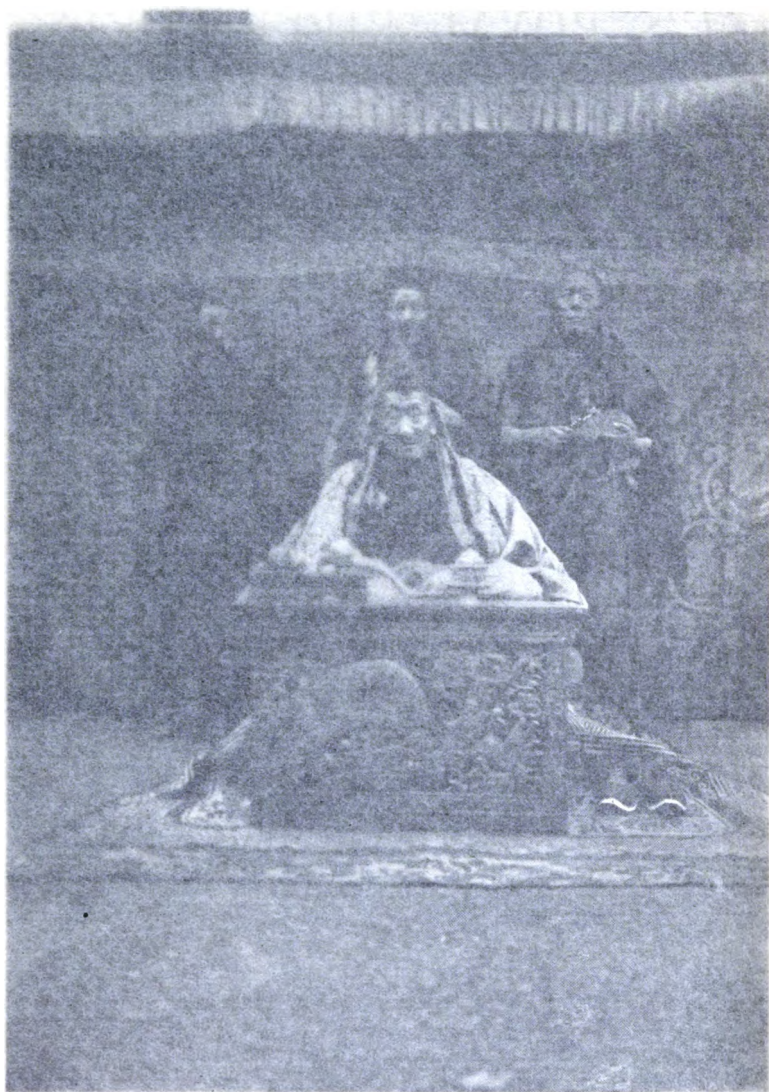
OF THE ADJUTANT RIFLE DEPOT.

MAJOR, D.S.O. (*Editor and Hon. Treasurer*).

MANCHESTER:

JOHN, PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS, HIGH STREET.

1922.



THE ABBOT OF THE SHEKAR MONASTERY.

THE
KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS
CHRONICLE

1921

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PREFACE.

THE economy axe which has now caused so many splinters to fly has fallen rather heavily on our Regiment, and if the proposed reductions take place we shall lose the 3rd and 4th Battalions by the end of this year. Apart from more important considerations this will deal a heavy blow at the *Regimental Chronicle*, reducing its scope by half, and that at a time when the prospects of an increased sale were particularly bright. Such buffets of fortune have to be borne with equanimity, and the Editor can only hope that those who remain will increase their literary activities, and those who cease to be actively connected with the Regiment will continue to take the same interest in this Regimental Institution that they have always shown, although it may appear in a more attenuated form.

THE EDITOR.

May, 1922.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE Editor requests that Correspondents will send their contributions for the 1922 Volume of the *Chronicle* as soon as possible, but *the sooner they are sent in the better*. This applies with even greater force to *all* photographs, etc., intended for illustrations.

The Records of Battalions and the Depôt should be made up to and including the 31st December, and posted as soon after that date as possible.

Contributions are invited from all Officers, W.O.'s, N.C.O.'s and Private Riflemen, past or present.

All contributions, if not published, are treated as strictly confidential, and will be returned to the writers or destroyed, as they may desire.

Correspondents are requested to adhere to the following rules:—

1.—All communications to be written *on one side only* of the paper, leaving a wide margin.

2.—All names of persons and foreign places, and all words not likely to be familiar to the printers, to be written in block capitals, thus: LADAKH. This is unnecessary when the copy is type-written.

3.—When sending contributions or photographs the sender should state whether he wishes his MS. or photographs returned to him or not; and in the case of contributions, whether he wishes his name or initials to be printed or not.

4.—It will greatly assist the Editor if correspondents will have their contributions typewritten.

All correspondence should be directed to Colonel R. Byron, Highfield Lodge, Winchester.

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Copies of this book can be obtained from the publishers, Messrs. Warren & Son, Ltd., 85, High Street, Winchester. Price—cloth, 15s., postage and packing 9d. extra; paper, to past and present Riflemen and their widows, 2s. 6d., postage 6d.; to the general public 4s., postage 6d.

THE ANNALS OF THE KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS

BY

LIEUT.-COLONEL LEWIS BUTLER, *p.s.c.*,
late The King's Royal Rifle Corps,

Published under the auspices of the Regimental History
Committee by

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THE KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS.

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"Louisberg," "Quebec, 1759," "Martinique, 1762, 1809," "Havannah," "Roleia,"
 "Vimiera," "Talavera," "Busaco," "Fuentes d'Onor," "Albuhera,"
 "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Salamanca," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "Nivelle,"
 "Nive," "Orthes," "Toulouse," "Peninsula," "Punjaub," "Mooltan,"
 "Goojerat," "Delhi," "Taku Forts," "Pekin," "South Africa, 1851-2-3, 1879,"
 "Ahmad Khel," "Kandahar, 1880," "Afghanistan, 1878-80," "Egypt, 1882, 1884,"
 "Tel-el-Kebir," "Chitral," "South Africa, 1899-1902," "Defence of Ladysmith,"
 "Relief of Ladysmith."
 North America, 1763-64.

Regular Battalions.

	<i>Uniform—Green.</i>	<i>Facings—Scarlet.</i>
1st Battalion (60th Foot)	- - - - -	<i>Ireland.</i>
2nd " (" ")	- - - - -	<i>Ireland.</i>
3rd " (" ")	- - - - -	<i>Mhow, India.</i>
4th " (" ")	- - - - -	<i>Quetta "</i>

Allied Regiment of Canadian Militia.

63rd (Halifax) Rifles - - - - - *Halifax, Nova Scotia.*
 1st Cadet Battalion - *42 and 44, Sun Street, Finsbury Square, E.C.*

Colonel-in-Chief.

THE KING.

Colonels Commandant.

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 2nd " - Lieut.-Gen. Sir Edward T. H. Hutton, K.C.B., K.C.M.G.
 3rd " - Major-Gen. R. S. R. Fetherstonhaugh, C.B.
 4th " - Lieut.-Gen. Sir William Pitcairn Campbell, K.C.B.

NOTICE.

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THE MOUNT EVEREST EXPEDITION

BY LIEUT.-COLONEL C. K. HOWARD BURY (late K.R.E.C.)

Ever since my first glimpse of Mount Everest from Sandakphu in 1908, from a distance of over a hundred miles, I had had a keen desire to know something more about the highest mountain in the world. That it lay on the borders of Tibet and Nepal lent an added attraction to the idea, both countries being at that time forbidden to Europeans. I had not altogether forgotten that an unsympathetic Indian Government had already in previous years, when I was serving with the 2nd Battalion, stopped my leave for daring to trespass into Tibet, so that when I happened to meet Sir Francis Younghusband, the President of the Royal Geographical Society, at lunch early in 1919, on the subject of Mount Everest cropping up, I expressed to him the great desire I had to make its nearer acquaintance. This had been his pet project for many years, and we therefore at once set to work to develop the idea. He first obtained the benevolent goodwill of the India Office, but it was necessary to obtain the co-operation of the Indian Government as well. I therefore went out to India in the summer of 1920, where I saw the Viceroy and the heads of the different departments. I also obtained leave to visit Mr. Bell in Tibet: he was our political agent for Sikkim, and was about to proceed on a special mission to Lhasa. Mr. Bell was requested by the Indian Government to ask the Dalai Lama that permission might be granted for an Expedition to Mount Everest. This the Dalai Lama granted, and besides giving the Expedition a passport, sent written instructions to all the Governors of the districts ordering them to give the Expedition every facility. These orders were carried out most satisfactorily, in spite of the fact that the policy was opposite to their traditional policy of excluding all foreigners from the country. On returning to England the Royal Geographical Society offered me the leadership of the Expedition, a post which I was only too

delighted to accept, and arrangements were at once put in hand for getting ready the Expedition.

The object of this year's Expedition was to make a thorough reconnaissance of Mount Everest, and all the approaches to it from the Tibetan side, and to find out whether there was a possible route to the summit. For this part of the work four members of the Alpine Club accompanied the Expedition. In addition to this object, there was the important work of surveying and mapping the unknown territories through which we were travelling. The Indian Government kindly lent the Expedition two officers of the Survey of India—Major H. T. Morshead and Major O. E. Wheeler, R.E. Under them were three native surveyors, who did all the plane tabling work. Major Wheeler was an expert in the Canadian system of Photo-Survey, a system which he employed in mapping the difficult and mountainous country round Mount Everest, where plane-tabling would be almost impossible. The Indian Government had also lent Dr. A. M. Heron, an officer of the Geological Survey of India, to study the geology of this region. Mr. A. F. R. Wollaston accompanied the Expedition as Doctor, Naturalist and Botanist, bringing out with him a complete collector's outfit. The Expedition arrived at Darjeeling early in May, and set to work to collect a number of coolies, who would be required for portage at high altitudes. For high climbing, a special type of coolie is needed—a man strong and hardy, not minding the cold, and who is accustomed to live at great heights. The type of man who best fulfilled these conditions was the Sherpa Bhutia, who came from the north-east of Nepal, from the districts that lay to the south of Mount Everest. He is a Buddhist by religion, and though at times quarrelsome and fond of strong drink, yet he proved a useful type of man who could be rapidly trained in snow and ice craft. We also picked up a few Tibetans in the Chumbi Valley; these proved to be as good as the best of the Sherpas, and without their faults. Warm clothing, blankets and boots were issued to all the coolies, and for those who had to sleep at great heights, eiderdown sleeping bags were taken. As no one was an expert in the Tibetan language, the Expedition took two interpreters, Gyalzen Kazi and Chheten

Wangdi; the latter had formerly been a captain in the Tibetan Army, and had served with the Indian Army in Egypt during the War. These two interpreters proved of the greatest use and assistance to the Expedition, saving them many thousands of rupees, and their tact and knowledge of Tibetan customs was of the greatest use in keeping up friendly relations with the Tibetans.

The Commander-in-Chief, Lord Rawlinson, kindly arranged to lend the Expedition a hundred Government mules, which were to be our main transport. On May 18th and 19th the Expedition left Darjeeling in two parties. Throughout the journey across Sikkim the weather was very wet with torrents of rain every day. Owing to the heavy rainfall, Sikkim is a country with a lavish growth and marvellous vegetation. The path that leads across to the Tibetan frontier is a very trying one, being a series of steep climbs, followed by equally stiff descents into the steaming tropical valleys. Wonderful butterflies of every shade and hue flitted across the path. Scarlet clerodendrons made brilliant patches of colour in the dark green of the tropical forest. Orchids—white, orange, mauve or purple—grew among the mosses or ferns on the branches of the trees, and we passed great hedges of daturas, fifteen feet to twenty feet in height, covered with hundreds of great white trumpet-shaped blooms fully eight inches in diameter and a foot in length. Ever since leaving Darjeeling, our Government mules had been giving us trouble, and two or three from each party had to be left behind after every march. After travelling for four days, we stopped at Rongli, hoping that they might recover after a day's rest. Ten mules had already been left behind, and one had died. The next march to Sedongchen was only a short one—nine miles—but the path climbed 4800 feet, and this ascent completely finished off the mules. They were now unable to carry even their own line gear, and all our loads were on hired ponies that we had been able to pick up on the road. There was now nothing else to be done except to send the mules back and to rely on what local transport we could get. We were luckily on the main trade route to Tibet, and were passing hundreds of mules coming down from Tibet laden with bales of wool,

and others returning with rice, copper and cloth that they were bringing back in exchange. We were thus able to pick up sufficient mules to carry us to Yatung.

The path was now only a steep stone causeway up the mountain side, but probably anything else would be washed away by the torrential rains that fall here during most of the year. Leeches abounded, sitting up at the end of every leaf and waving at the passer-by. We now began to enter the great rhododendron forests: no photograph could do any justice to the scene. The hillsides were a blaze of colour—rhododendrons, orange, red, deep crimson, pink, white or cream coloured, covered every yard of them. That night we camped at Gnatong, and the following day crossed the Jelep-la, 14,890 feet, in pouring rain. This was the frontier between Sikkim and Tibet, and on descending a few hundred feet on the Tibetan side we marched into fine weather and blue skies. The vegetation on this side was in many ways more European. We now met with birch, sycamore and willows, and under the dark silver fir trees shewed up many a pink or orange rhododendron, and wild roses, spiraeas, clematis and berberis, grew in profusion along the path.

The Chumbi Valley is one of the most fertile and prosperous valleys in all Tibet. The houses are large and well built, reminding one very much of Tyrolese villages. To Phari was a two days' easy march up this valley: on the way we visited two monasteries, each containing enormous prayer wheels, said to contain over a million prayers. Each time the wheel is turned a bell rings, shewing that a million prayers have been offered up to Heaven. In other parts of Tibet, we found that the wind was requisitioned for the purpose of praying, anemometers being fitted up above the prayer wheels, and as the wind blows all the year round in Tibet, these prayer wheels are for ever turning. In other places were large water prayer wheels, turned by water brought down by irrigation canals. In the Donka Monastery was a famous oracle who was consulted far and wide and who had a great reputation for truth. Many of these monasteries had oracles who prophesied after the ancient Greek method and acquired considerable political power for their monastery. It was

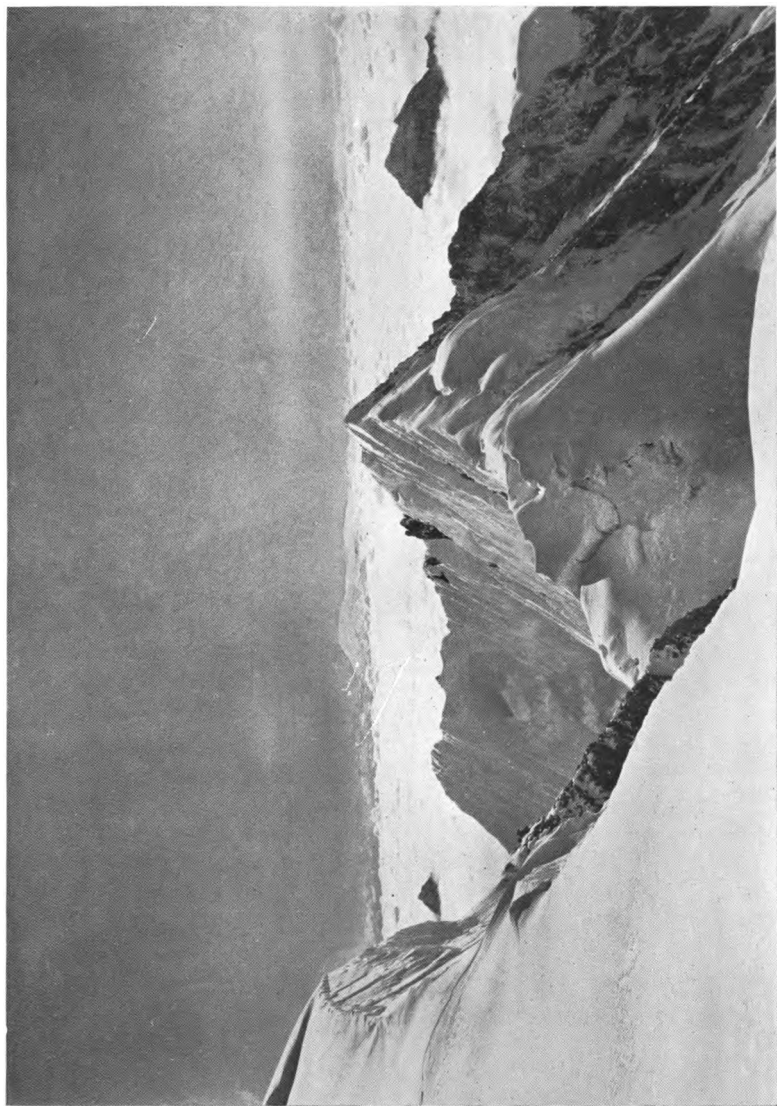
at this place that we had our first introduction to Tibetan tea, which, although poured out into agate and silver tea cups, was extraordinarily nasty, being made with salt, tea and butter all churned up together.

Phari is a very dirty village, at a height of 14,800 feet, lying at the foot of the sacred peak of Chomolhari, but as it stands at the entrance to the real Tibet, it is a place of considerable importance. We left Phari on May 31st, with a wonderful collection of transport animals, comprising:—donkeys, bullocks, mules, ponies and yaks. We were given mules to ride, but some of our Alpine friends were not very skilful in manipulating these animals, and one of the party only just escaped being thrown into a muddy pond, as his mule insisted on returning to his own stable. The Tibetans took us by a long and roundabout way to Khamba Dzong. We were not yet accustomed to dealings with them. Their object, we found out afterwards, was to take us the longest possible route in order to make the greatest amount of money out of us. However, it was all new country, and, as there was plenty of game, I did not mind. I had brought with me a couple of rifles and a shot gun. The game in Tibet on the whole was disappointing. Between Phari and Khamba Dzong was to be found more game than in all the remainder of the country we traversed. Here lived the fine *Ovis Ammon* (Hodgsoni). I shot one of these on the way out and a very fine specimen on the return journey. Besides these were any number of goa (Tibetan gazelle). These lived in great numbers on the plains, and we seldom did a march without seeing twenty or thirty. I shot five or six of them during the trip, and their meat formed an excellent change from our constant diet of mutton. Besides these, herds of kiang roamed the plains. They were, however, often very annoying when I was trying to stalk some other animal, as being very inquisitive by nature, they would come galloping up to see who the stranger was and, of course, frightened off any animal that I was after. Hares abounded, in some places constantly getting up under the feet of one's pony. Two kinds of partridge were met with—there was the ordinary Tibetan partridge, and a snow partridge, which was much more rare and did not come below 17,000 feet.

There was also the great Tibetan snow cock (*Tetraogallus tibetanus*), of which we came across a considerable number: their flesh proved to be the most tasty of all the game birds. On the lakes were many bar-headed geese, Brahminy duck, mallard and teal; a certain number of which we were able to shoot for the pot.

Khamba Dzong was an imposing fort at the entrance to a limestone gorge, and the architecture of its walls was curious and very interesting. It was here that one of our Alpine Climbers, Dr. Kellas, died suddenly from heart failure. He had not been well for some days previously. Another of our Alpine Climbers, too, was in a very bad state, and we had to send him down to Sikkim to recover, accompanied by Wollaston. This was a very serious blow to the climbing party—the loss of two of their best climbers. From Khamba Dzong for two days our route lay across broad plains and along the swampy valley of the Yaru to Tinki Dzong, where was a picturesque old fort situated on the banks of a large pond swarming with bar-headed geese, Brahminy duck and teal. These were all wonderfully tame and came waddling round our tents knowing no fear of man, for they had never been shot at or killed here. A Lama had been sent from Lhasa for the special purpose of taming all the wild animals in the district; the people therefore begged us not to shoot or catch any of the wild animals in this neighbourhood. The Jongpen of Tinki was a delightful man. He was Mongolian in appearance and dressed in finely embroidered Chinese silks. He had ceremonial tea—sweetmeats and chang (Tibetan beer)—ready for us, presenting us at the same time with a couple of hundred eggs and four sheep. Everywhere the crops of barley were beginning to come up, for in Tibet it could be grown and ripened to heights up to 16,000 feet, and during the next few months I saw some of the finest crops that I have seen anywhere. These crops are nearly always irrigated, for they do not seem to have much faith in the summer rains.

On leaving Tinki, there was the usual fighting and confusion about the loads, each person trying to get the lightest load for his own animal, the result being that there was much quarrelling, and nothing was actually done until some head man would come and take control and decide



VIEW OF SEA OF CLOUDS FROM KAMACHANGRI (21,300).
Kanchenjunga in the far distance.

the dispute. His method of adjudication was as follows:— From each of the families who were regarded as responsible for the supply of a transport animal, was taken one of the embroidered garters by which the man's felt boots are kept in their place. These garters were shuffled as one might shuffle a pack of cards, after which a single garter was laid upon each load. The family to which the garter belonged thereupon became responsible for that load and had to pack it upon the animal's back. Although we had only ninety animals, there were forty-five different families supplying them. After crossing the Tinki Pass, 17,100 feet, we once more entered the Yaru Valley, which we descended for a couple of days, passing on the way the fine country house of Gyanka Nangpa, the home of the Phari Jongpen. Here we were given a very solid meal of Tibetan dumplings, seasoned with a chilli sauce. Europeans had never been seen before in these parts, so that everywhere we were objects of great interest, the inhabitants flocking out to see us. After fording the Yaru we had to cross a wide sandy plain, through which at times a stream flowed on the surface, though usually this disappeared under ground, forming dangerous quicksands. When the transport came up, our drivers were very anxious to cross immediately, as there was a strong wind blowing with a violent sand storm. They said that it would be much safer to cross now that all the fresh sand had blown over the wet sand. We therefore dressed up as though for a gas attack, with goggles over our eyes, and cap-comforters or handkerchiefs over our faces to keep the sand out. At first we wound our way through big sand dunes, off which the sand was blowing like smoke. Here we found our coolies halted and quite lost. Some of the donkeys, too, had been unloaded and could not find their way across in the sand storm. After leaving the dunes, there were some wide stretches of wet sand to be crossed, over which the dry sand was being blown in long wisps, so that the ground everywhere appeared to be moving. Eventually we and our transport arrived on the far side in safety. It was too late to go on any farther, we therefore camped on some sand dunes near the quicksands in the teeth of the gale. Just before dark a very beautiful and lofty peak appeared to the south.

After taking its bearings carefully, we decided that this could be no other than Mount Everest.

We now entered the valley of the Bhongchu, and this valley we followed up to Tingri. Three days' march brought us to Shekar Dzong, which was the headquarters of the district, with two Jongpens. There was a large monastery there containing 400 monks. Shekar Dzong was very finely situated on a big rocky and sharp-pointed mountain, like an enlarged St. Michael's Mount. On arrival, the whole town turned out and surrounded us, so that we had to retire into a willow grove in order to get away from the pressing attentions of the Tibetans. We paid a visit to the monastery, which was an exceptionally rich one, containing many statues of Buddha, covered all over with precious stones. In this monastery there lived an old Lama who was considered to be the re-incarnation of a former Abbot, and whom the Tibetans practically worshipped. After much persuasion the monks induced him to come outside and to have his photograph taken, saying that as he was an old man and that his time on earth was now short they wished to have a picture of him by which to remember him. He was therefore dressed up for the purpose in some beautiful gold brocades, and priceless Chinese hangings were hung up behind him. The fame of this photograph spread throughout the country, and in many places hundreds of miles away I was asked for photographs of the old Abbot of Shekar Chöte: I could not give a more welcome present at any house than a photograph of the old Abbot. These photographs the people put in little shrines, before which they used to burn incense.

The following night the camp was disturbed by a man who had seized one of the ice-axes and started to smash up all our boxes. The coolies turned out and gave chase, eventually running the man to ground, after which we handed him over to the Jongpen for disposal; the man, however, turned out to be a lunatic, and was sent back to his family, who were told to look after him properly.

After a month of travelling we arrived at Tingri, which was a large village and trading centre, situated on a small hill in the middle of the great Tingri Plain. This was to be our first base for reconnoitring the north-western



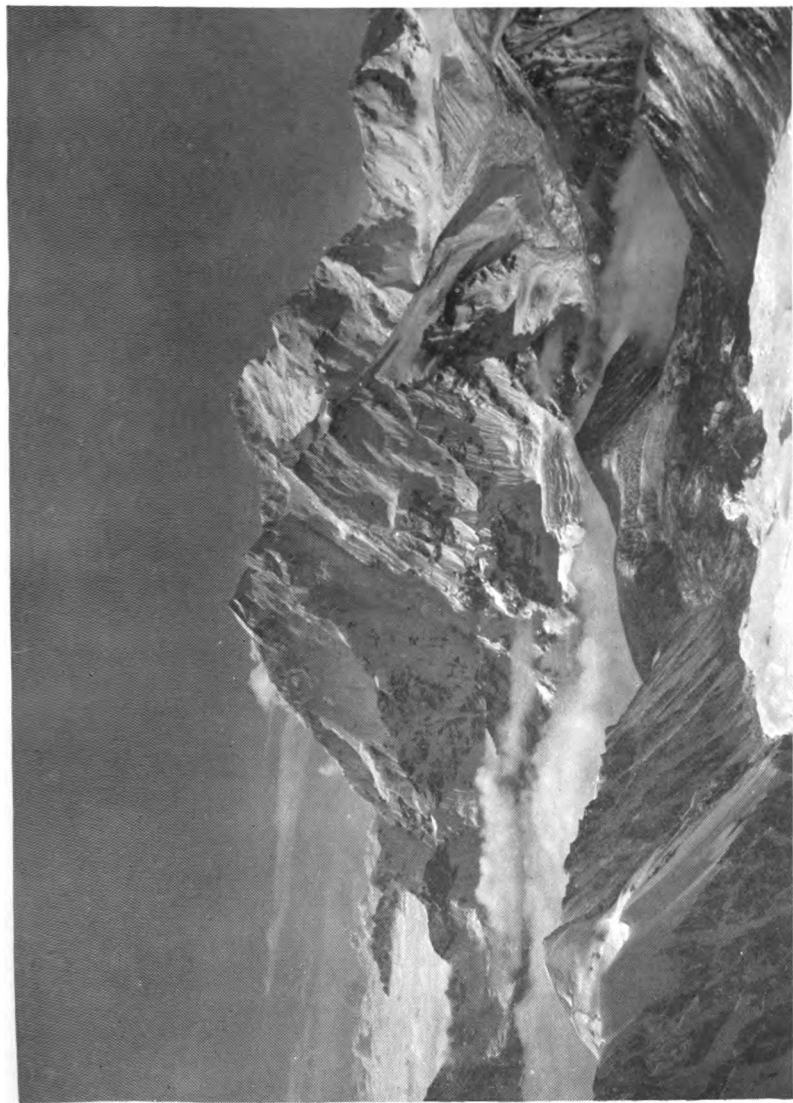
MOUNT EVEREST AT SUNSET.

From the 20,000 ft. Camp.

approaches to Mount Everest, which was clearly visible across a low range of hills and was distant about forty miles. The weather was still fine, but we did not know how soon the monsoon might break. We therefore sent out parties in every direction as soon as possible. About the geography of the country we knew nothing. Our maps were very inaccurate, and the information that could be obtained from the Tibetans was misleading and often very contradictory. On June 22nd Wollaston rejoined the Expedition, having taken Raeburn (who had fallen ill on the way) down to Lachen, and handed him over to the care of the lady missionaries. I was therefore able to go away for a few days and to see personally where the various parties were and the general lie of the land. I also wanted to find a place for our second base camp when we should be reconnoitring Mount Everest from the other side. I first joined Wheeler and Heron at Kyetrak, climbing up to the Khombu Pass—a fine glacier-covered Pass, 19,000 feet—leading into Nepal and across which there is a certain amount of traffic. It is, however, always a dangerous Pass. To the east towered up the great cliffs of Chouyo, 26,800 feet, and to the right of us were the ice falls of Chorabsang. With Heron I then crossed the Pusi-la, or Marmot Pass, 17,700 feet, into the Rongshahr Valley, which was on the southern side of the Himalayan Watershed. It is curious that the Tibetan frontier should extend in many places for several days' march to the south of the main watershed of the Himalayas, but it is easier to get from Tibet over the Passes into the upper reaches of these valleys than it is from Nepal. At a certain distance down, these valleys narrow into precipitous gorges, of which the passage is very difficult, and impassable in the rainy season even for coolies. This was the case with the Nyanam Valley, the Rongshahr Valley and the Arun Valley.

On the south side of the Passes there was a considerable rainfall with a luxuriant vegetation. Near Tasang white roses, together with yellow and white rhododendrons, covered the hillsides; yellow primulas, gooseberries and currants grew everywhere, while junipers covered the slopes facing south. Owing to the amount of juniper which grew here, and which is used as incense by the Tibetans, the valley

is looked upon as a sacred one, with several hermits and nuns living in the caves in it. The nearest village supplied them with food and after ten years of solitary meditation the anchorite is supposed to acquire great holiness and to be able to support life on ten grains of barley a day. There was a female anchorite here who had lived to 138 years, they told us. She was greatly revered and had forbidden any animals to be killed, hence we found the wild sheep (burhel) everywhere very tame. On returning from this Valley we visited the Alpine Climbers, who had established themselves at a camp, 18,000 feet, in the Rongbuk Valley. This was another sacred valley, where, at a height of 16,500 feet, was a large monastery: there were also between three and four hundred hermits and nuns living in this valley in solitary cells or caves. Here, far away from the outside world, under the shadow of the great precipices of Mount Everest, they could meditate in peace and perfect seclusion. All the wild animals and birds in this valley were wonderfully tame. With my own eyes I watched burhel coming down in the early morning to the hermits' cells and being fed, not a hundred yards from our camp. I was able to walk openly to within twenty yards of a flock of burhel who shewed no signs of fear or paid the slightest attention to me: the rock pigeon, too, used to come and feed out of our hands, and it was the same with all the other wild birds. The Alpine Climbers spent a month in this valley investigating the great glaciers which led up to Mount Everest. From this side, however, Mount Everest presents a series of most formidable precipices, descending sheer for 10,000 feet on to the glacier. The two great spurs to the west and north-west were equally impracticable, and, after they had spent a month there, they decided that there was no possible approach from that side. Bad weather had interfered with their plans and a large valley to the east had escaped their notice, owing to the fact that where it joined the main Rongbuk Valley it appeared to be a narrow and insignificant side valley and of no consequence. Eventually, however, we were from another direction to enter the head of this side valley, which proved to hold the secret of the one and only possible approach to Mount Everest. Meanwhile, after leaving the climbers, in three marches I had



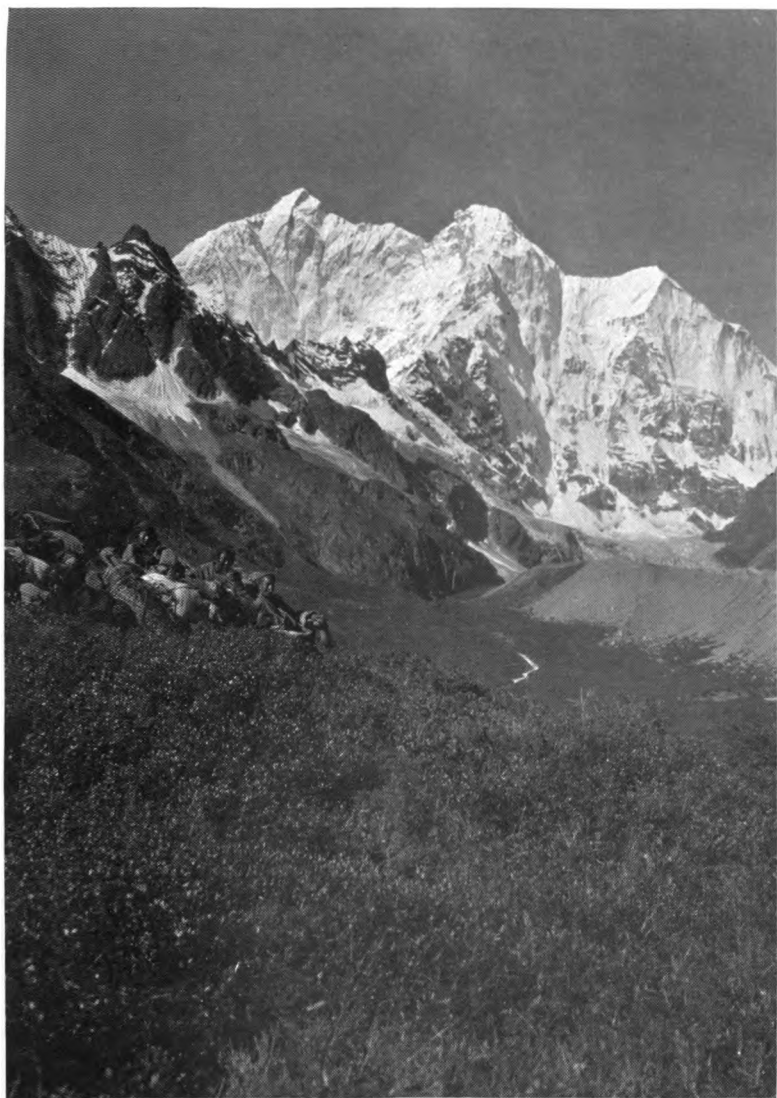
CHOMOLONZO AND MAKATU (27,950).
From Kamachangri (21,300).

arrived at Kharta in the main Arun Valley. Here the people were at first very frightened of us, and villages were completely deserted as we approached. The Governor of the district, however, had a large Chinese tent pitched for our reception in his garden, where we lived for several days. The rains unfortunately broke about this period, and our Chinese tent, beautiful in outward appearance, was rather like a sieve to live in. We also selected a house standing all by itself on an old river terrace and surrounded by a shady garden of poplars and willows for our second base camp. The rent that we had to pay for the house and garden amounted to the large sum of $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ per day, but living in Tibet is cheap, as you can engage house-servants for the equivalent of $2s. 8d.$ a year. We now returned to Tingri, where I found Wollaston and Morshead. The latter had been busy surveying the country to the north and west, and on my return, on an invitation from the Jongpens at Nyanam, they both set out to pay him a visit, eventually rejoining us at Kharta. The rainy season had now thoroughly begun and heavy rain fell every day, the fresh snow coming down as low as 15,000 feet during the night, most of it melting again in the day-time.

On July 24th we moved our base camp and all our stores round to Kharta, the Alpine Climbers joining us on the way and accompanying us to Kharta for a rest. The country through which we were travelling was a pleasant one, full of fields of barley, peas and yellow mustard. Everywhere were beautiful wild flowers and on the Doya-la the blue poppies were exceptionally pretty, almost covering the ground. At Kharta we were in the Arun Valley. The river is here over a hundred yards wide and very deep. A mile lower down it enters into the great gorges, where in the course of the next twenty miles it drops from 12,000 feet to 7500 feet. Every day the monsoon clouds came up through the gorge in thin wisps, but always melted away at the same spot, and though it poured with rain a mile below, yet every day the sun shone brightly with us, and it was rare that any rain reached us. The forests of birch and fir trees came up to the limit of the rainfall and then ceased suddenly where the rain stopped, a mile below us. From Kharta there were two valleys which led up in

the direction of Mount Everest, but we could get very little information from the Tibetans about them.

Early in August the Alpine Climbers started off to explore the southernmost of these two valleys, and I followed them up a few days later. Leaving the Kharta Valley, we crossed a chain of mountains to the south, by the Langma-la, 18,000 feet, which brought us into the wonderful Kama Valley. We had explored many of these Himalayan valleys, but none of them seemed to be comparable with this valley, either for the beauty of its Alpine scenery, or for its wonderful vegetation. In it were smiling pastures, carpeted with gentians and every variety of Alpine flower up to the very verge of ice-bound tracks, and here mighty glaciers descended among the primeval forests that clothe its lower slopes. At the extreme end of the valley towered up Mount Everest itself, its great buttresses forming a huge semi-circle and, like a great snake, the Kangshung glacier with its bands of black moraine crept up to the foot of the stupendous rock cliffs that form the eastern face of Mount Everest. It was easy to see that from this side there was no practicable route to the summit, and the mountaineers returned from this valley in order to explore the Upper Kharta Valley, the only remaining valley that we had not yet tried. The Kama Valley was so beautiful that I paid three visits to it in August and September. The upper part of the valley I visited at the end of September, crossing over the Karpo-la, 20,800 feet, a glacier-covered pass that led into it from the Upper Kharta Valley. To the east of Mount Everest was a magnificent mountain called Makalu, which, though a thousand feet lower than Mount Everest, was a far finer mountain to look at and far more imposing. Its terrifically steep precipices descended sheer for 11,000 feet into the valley with huge buttresses of perpendicular black rock jutting out from it. I was able to climb up on to the ridge between these two great peaks to a spot at a height of 21,500 feet, whence I had a marvellous view looking down into Nepal. The rainfall in the Kama Valley is heavy and consequently the vegetation is most luxuriant, and on descending the valley we entered a zone of wonderful forests. Juniper trees grew here to a size quite unknown, with stems 20 feet in circumference and rising for 50 feet or 60 feet



THE KAMA VALLEY AND CHOMOLONZO,

without a branch. Lower down were the silver firs, growing 100 to 150 feet in height, with trunks 30 feet in girth. Here, too, grew the giant-leaved rhododendrons. Long grey lichens hung down from every bough, swaying gently in the wind. The hillsides were running with water, the path being only a morass of black, leafy mud, except where logs had been laid down on which to walk. Such conditions were favourable to leeches, which abounded in this valley up to heights over 12,000 feet. We suffered much from them as they climbed up the tent walls and dropped down on to our heads and clothes and in all our food. From this valley we were able to investigate the only track that leads into Nepal, across the Popti-la, 14,000 feet. On the top of this pass was a stone with a Chinese inscription, stating that it was the boundary between Tibet and Nepal. For five months in the year this pass is closed by snow. At any time it is only practicable for coolies, who bring up chillies, rice and dyes from Nepal to be exchanged at Sakeding for salt. All trade is done by the method of barter and no money whatever changes hands. Except for a few burhel at the head of the valley, I saw no game animals in this district, though there are probably a few musk deer in the forests.

At the end of August we returned to Kharta and as the weather shewed some signs of improvement, we moved to another camp near the head of the Kharta Valley, at a height of 17,350 feet. The fine weather did not last long and for three weeks we were detained in this camp by constant snow storms, three to six inches of fresh snow falling every night. The time was utilised for carrying fuel and stores to a stony terrace, about 20,000 feet at the head of the valley, where we intended to make another camp. During this period I managed to shoot a few ramchakor and a burhel, with which to vary our diet of Tibetan mutton. We met with foxes and wolves up to a height of 20,000 feet, and one day when I only had a shot-gun with me I was within fifty yards of a fine specimen of a grey wolf. We found whistling hares, rats and ramchakor living at 20,000 feet, where there was still a small amount of vegetation.

Towards the end of September we all moved up to the 20,000 foot camp. The days were still pleasantly warm,

but we were getting between twenty and thirty degrees of frost every night. From this camp we were able to see a possible approach to Mount Everest itself. The softness of the snow had hitherto hindered us from getting any nearer. After much difficulty we succeeded in getting our stores carried up to the Lhakpa-la, 22,850 feet, where we proposed to make a further camp, and on September 22nd six of us with twenty-six coolies moved up to this camp. From this spot we were only a couple of miles from Mount Everest itself and the route to the summit could easily be determined. It was, however, necessary first to descend some 1200 feet on to the glacier below, where another camp had to be pitched. From that camp a climb of 2000 feet brought the party on to the top of the Chang-la, 23,050 feet (North Col) a pass which joins Mount Everest to Changtse. We were too large a party to go on to the North Col. The three best of the Alpine Climbers were therefore selected to climb the North Col. On arriving there they were met by a furious gale from the north-west which effectually prevented their going any higher. Up to that point they had been sheltered from the wind, but the remainder of the climb to the summit of Mount Everest lay along an exposed ridge, off which the snow could be seen blowing in great clouds. The night spent at over 22,000 feet did not make us anxious to remain at those heights for long. The snow, at ordinary times so soft, proved uncomfortably hard to sleep upon when frozen into lumps. In addition, the gale had prevented much cooking being done. With great difficulty a little tea had been made and some sardines thawed, but 34° of frost and an icy wind did not add to our comfort, the camp being situated at the very top of the pass where there was but little shelter. We therefore returned back to our 20,000 foot camp to await the return of the other party. We had found out that there were no physical difficulties in the way and that this was the only possible line of approach to the summit. Were the mountain six, or even five thousand feet lower, there is no doubt that it could be climbed, but under the prevailing conditions, with the powdery snow which is so often met with on the north side, and with the heat of the sun which seems to draw all the energy out of the body, and the icy cold



**MOUNT EVEREST AND THE CHANG-LA (23,050).
Shewing the Route to the Summit.**

blasts which freeze the very marrow, I am not very confident that the summit will ever be attained.

Another Expedition for 1922 has been organised for the express purpose of climbing the mountain. This had already been arranged early in 1921, before our Expedition started, and the leadership was then offered to General C. G. Bruce, formerly of the 5th Gurkhas, who has had more experience than anyone of climbing in the Himalayas.

On September 25th the Alpine Climbers returned to the 20,000 foot camp in a thoroughly exhausted condition, having had a very trying time, due to the terrifically strong winds that they had encountered. We now all returned to Kharta, but it was not till October 5th that we were able to start on our return journey. Winter was rapidly approaching. We were all anxious to get back once more to a warmer climate. The Tibetans throughout our stay had proved extremely friendly and had done everything they could to help us both with coolies and supplies, and we were really sorry to see the last of the friendly Jongpen of Kharta.

For the journey back we chose another route, impassable during the summer months, but now that the snow and ice were no longer melting, it was possible to make use of this way. It necessitated crossing the Arun River by a bridge of twisted raw hide ropes at Gadompa. We were trussed up under these ropes and then hauled across as though we were bales of merchandise, most of us getting very wet in the process. It took twelve hours' hard work to get all our kit, collections and stores over, and I was very relieved when everything had reached the further side in safety. Two days' march brought us back into our old tracks, but Tibet was not going to let us depart before giving us a specimen of a snow blizzard with 82° of frost. We had three difficult and long marches from Khamba Dzong to Phari, a distance of sixty-five miles, much of it being over 17,000 feet and through deep snow. Our difficulties were then over and from Phari back to Darjeeling we could sleep in bungalows and were sheltered from the everlasting winds of Tibet.

✱ We had accomplished what we had set out to do. We had reconnoitred all the possible approaches to Mount

Everest, and had found out that there was a possible route to the top. Climatic conditions alone had prevented a much greater height being attained this year. Our travels had taken us through much unexplored country, wherein we had discovered deep valleys with primeval forests and a wealth of vegetation such as we had never imagined to find in Tibet. We were able to bring back seeds of several beautiful new flowers, together with a large collection of small mammals and birds. The surveyors mapped some . 18,000 square miles of new country and the geology of the whole of this area—an area greater than Belgium—has been thoroughly worked out.

Every moment of last summer was full of interest, for who is there that is not attracted by the unknown, or by the prospect of discovering new birds or animals? Even the newspapers were able to discover a wild, hairy man for us! There may have been discomforts at times, but the memories of these soon fade away and only the recollections of those joyous days of discovery remain—a heritage never to be forgotten.

SEVEN YEARS AGO

October 13th, 1914

Time has laid its kindly hand on the memory of those awful days subsequent to the 13th October, 1914, which is held to be the birthday of the "Ypres Salient," and to us Riflemen the date will be for ever sacred, for did not the flower of our four Regular Battalions perish in those blood-drenched trenches in the autumn of that year and the spring of 1915. How they held the Salient against such odds is one of those military miracles which are from time to time recorded, and only become the more remarkable the closer the facts are examined. It was indeed a critical situation at one period, when the defence was reduced to handfuls of exhausted and desperate men fighting amidst the most appalling conditions, with no hope of relief or aid and nothing but their own valour and belief in their cause to sustain them.

The heroism of these men is recorded in the German Staff narrative, which states that "The fact that neither the enemy's commanders nor their troops gave way under the strong pressure we put upon them but continued to fight the battle round Ypres, though their situation was most perilous, gives us an opportunity to acknowledge that there were men of real worth opposed to us who did their duty thoroughly."

How little did anyone dream when those first cavalry patrols entered Ypres from the north and received such a joyous welcome from the inhabitants of this quiet Flemish town that this was to prove the commencement of one of the finest battles or series of conflicts in all history, which continued at intervals for four years, until at last, after their final and most desperate effort in March of 1918, when our younger representatives of the Regiment, forming part of the British Army of the North, fought like their predecessors "with their backs to the wall," and denied the passage to the Channel ports to the German hosts.

And what of Ypres to-day. Slowly but no less surely the scars and wounds of war are disappearing.

It is astonishing to note how the industrious Belgians have thrown themselves heart and soul into the work of reconstruction, and the large area around Ypres now under cultivation is in marked contrast to such districts as the Somme region. There is still no difficulty in marking the German lines, and these will no doubt remain as landmarks for future military historians. Most of the roads have been re-made, and alongside lie heaps of barbed wire and other debris of war. Polygon Wood is nothing but a collection of blasted tree stumps, but Gheluvelt already has a street of neat bungalows. Standing on the Messines Ridge and looking down on Ypres, it can easily be recognised how the possession of this slight eminence meant so much to the belligerents.

Mount Kemmel, where such desperate fighting raged in 1918, is now green once more, its shell-torn slopes almost obliterated; the trench system along the former British lines at Wytschaete has vanished. In Ypres itself the builder is noted everywhere—factories are rising again and there are whole streets of inhabited houses, but what is left of the Cloth Hall will ever remain a record of the sacrifice of 250,000 British officers and men who were killed and wounded on this sacred soil of Flanders fields. They rest content.

REGIMENTAL RECORDS

1st BATTALION THE KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS

Ballykinlar Camp, 1921

It is a matter of considerable difficulty to piece together a consecutive narrative of events that have occurred during the last seventeen months, when every day has been very much like the preceding one, and there is very little to chronicle, which can set its mark on any individual day or period.

It will be as well to touch lightly on various points of importance, from a purely local point of view, and which may tend to serve as a chronicle of the life of the 1st Battalion during a period of drudgery and wearisome routine such as has seldom been the lot of any Battalion of the Regiment to experience.

1. *The Internment Camp.*

In November 1920, orders were issued by G.H.Q. Ireland, to the effect that our hitherto peaceful existence was to be marred by the conversion of the West (Central) Camp at Ballykinlar into an Internment Camp, for the reception of those who were known to be imbued with Sinn Fein tendencies.

As so often happens in these cases, G.H.Q. expected "The Cage" to be ready for the reception of our "Guests" within an incredibly short space of time, regardless of the fact that:—

(a.) Railhead (Tullymurry Station) was some four miles away.

(b.) Adequate transport was not forthcoming.

(c.) Barbed wire was practically an unknown quantity in Ireland.

(d.) The existing electric light plant was only just able to light (in a very spasmodic fashion) the camp occupied by ourselves and the 1st Battalion D.C.L.I., and was totally

unable to cope with the vastly augmented lighting to be thrown, all night, on the cages and wire surrounding, a light which eventually formed an invaluable aid to our sentries on their posts overlooking the prisoners' compound.

Suffice it to say that after six or seven weeks of real hard work on the part of our men, and the erection of hundreds of tons of barbed wire, we were able to start off on the reception of our temporary guests, with the comfortable feeling of having not only the internees but ourselves also surrounded with a formidable barbed-wire obstacle against any possible attempt, on a large scale, by Sinn Fein forces, to release their more unfortunate comrades.

2. Defensive Measures.

As it was more than likely that the enemy might attempt a great "Coup," in the shape of a formidable attack in strength, with the object of liberating their comrades, our defensive measures and the closest co-operation with the D.C.L.I. and the local police in the neighbourhood had to be most carefully thought out and organised, especially as, owing to the very heavy duties on the Cage Guards, the question of "man-power" was becoming very acute. The number of men on duty, guards, enlying picket and patrolling the wire, at night, necessitated our men being on duty every third night, all employed men and Battalion Headquarters taking their share, as well as the dutymen! with the result that all form of progressive training was of course out of the question. Our defensive wire was erected in belts, swept by flanking fire from Block-houses, which were only manned by definite Lewis Gun Sections in case of attack.

3. Water Supply.

The water supply, even in a normal year, would hardly have been sufficient to supply cooking, washing and drinking water for the additional 2000 internees; but during the very dry summer of 1921 the strictest economy had to be exercised, both by the troops and by the internees, with regard to water wastage, which, needless to say, was more easy to enforce in a Battalion than in the prisoners' cages. The Power-House, which pumped the water into high level

tanks in camp, was, unfortunately, outside our defensive wire, and, owing to its importance, a guard of one N.C.O. and six Riflemen was permanently posted there, and a bullet-proof blockhouse built, to command all the approaches to the Power-House, the whole surrounded by a complete circle of strong barbed wire. In case of alarm or attack this post was in communication by telephone with the main Guard Room, and also had a liberal supply of Very pistol ammunition.

Finally, our defensive measures were supplemented by three mobile search-light lorries, which patrolled the area, within two miles of camp, at irregular intervals by night.

4. *Sports and Amusements.*

It must be borne in mind that the nearest village was over two miles away, entailing a journey in a row-boat across Dundrum Bay, and contained no attraction or even a Picture Palace to amuse the men, with the result that we had to concentrate all our energies on providing amusements in camp, especially during the long winter evenings, and I am bound to say that our efforts in that direction were more than repaid by the admirable way in which all ranks of the Battalion "played up," and by their excellent behaviour, invariably cheerful demeanour, and admirable turn-out on all occasions; all tending to show that they were comfortable and contented, and that the "happy family" feeling of the old 1st Battalion was as strong as ever, even in our cheerless surroundings.

Our usual weekly programme consisted of a Whist Drive on Tuesday, a Dance on Thursday and Saturday, all of which were invariably well patronized, the men becoming more proficient in all the latest forms of dances, and attending them, literally, in their hundreds.

At regular intervals the 1st Battalion Dramatic Club (The Jagers) gave performances in the shape of a burlesque, or a variety Pierrot performance, and endless trouble was taken by Captain Hordern, Lieut. Butler and Captain Troubridge, as well as all the performers, to make these a real success.

Towards the end of our time twenty-five pairs of roller skates were purchased by the Battalion, and proved a

great source of attraction, being hired out at a nominal sum, to the men, and an empty shed, with concrete flooring, forming an excellent skating rink.

We were fortunately situated for outdoor amusements and hockey, football and cricket flourished continuously according to the season of the year, and our Regimental Football team made great strides in their efficiency as a side that worked well together, and showed plenty of dash and keenness and zeal for real hard training and practice.

Sport, for officers, has been all along of a very variegated character, and we shall take back to England with us many happy memories of days spent on the bogs, and "fighting" in Dundrum Bay, when every kind of bird was shot and brought home for the "Pot"—Duck, Teal, Snipe, Widgeon, Curlew, Plover, and Ringed and Golden Plover as well, and it is satisfactory to record that a Game-book has been carefully kept, which, in years to come, will make interesting reading for those that follow after.

The County Down Staghounds and the East Down Harriers also provided excellent sport, and several of our Government chargers promise to become useful hunters.

During 1921 we also had two Race Meetings for our mules and horses on the sands in Dundrum Bay, at low tide, and with an excellent totalizator, of a rough and ready type, admirably organised and run by Sergt. McRae, Sergt. Cozier, Sergt. Herridge, and Sergt. Bridge, a most enjoyable afternoon's amusement was provided, as was also the case, with a Gymkhana, held close to barracks, which caused infinite amusement to lookers-on, as well as to competitors.

5. *The Truce of 1921.*

It is not, perhaps, generally realised that during the whole time that the Truce was in existence we, at Ballylinlar, were unable to relax our vigilance or our defensive measures in the slightest degree, and indeed it was not really until the Truce began that the internees started to make determined and cunningly contrived efforts to escape, by means of travelling under the wire. They made no less than three different attempts to do so, and were in every case defeated in their efforts by the admirable intelli-

gence service, organised by Lieut. Farrer and his staff of competent officers. It may perhaps interest our readers to hear something in detail of their first and almost successful attempt.

Some time during August 1921, our Intelligence Staff, by a system of spies inside the cage, by intercepting letters, and by means of an electric listening apparatus, were convinced that a tunnel was being dug out of the north-east corner of No. 1 Cage, and on digging down a couple of feet, lo and behold, we came across a most perfectly made tunnel, all shored with internees' bed-boards (which one need scarcely add, had not been as carefully or systematically checked as they should have been !), also a beautifully constructed little trolley, the wooden wheels of which were all covered with canvas in order to deaden the sound, and on which the "spoils" from the tunnel itself had been removed and scattered about under the huts and in the ash bins, in order to escape detection; all most carefully thought out and executed, and, evidently, a "master-mind" at the head of the whole plot. The trolley and wheels were all made inside the cage, the tunnel was nearly 200 feet long and led out to a small farm just outside our defensive wire. The Sinn Feiners were furiously disappointed at the failure of their plan, which must have taken them many weeks to bring to that stage of perfection.

Two more attempts of this kind were both frustrated and then all efforts to escape by tunnelling were abandoned.

One more interesting episode may be worth mentioning, emphasising the importance which was always attached by us to the strict censoring of all parcels.

One day Lieut. Farrer, Chief Intelligence Officer, came to my office with a huge parcel under his arm, in which was enclosed a cake that had arrived by post the same morning, quite 18 inches in diameter; on cutting the cake in half, he found, *baked into the middle of the cake*, a pair of wire cutters over a foot long!

In conclusion, it will always stand to the credit of the 1st Battalion of the D.C.L.I. and of our 1st Battalion that (with the exception of two internees, who each borrowed by some inexplicable means a suit of uniform and who walked out of the gate of the Cage dressed as soldiers, but

who were caught and brought back within eight hours) Ballykinlar Camp was the only Internment Camp in Ireland that had the unique distinction of never permitting the escape of a single internee during the whole time that Internment Camps were in existence in Ireland.

And now the welcome news has come of our return to Aldershot, and we shall look back upon our time in Ireland as a period of hard work, exacting duties, but good comradeship, and last, but not least, with the satisfaction of knowing that we have not lost a single rifle or Lewis gun during our stay in that distressful country.

BATTALION RECORDS

January.

The New Year found the Battalion concentrated at Ballykinlar.

1st.—The Cage Guard at the Internment Camp was taken over. This necessitated a daily guard of seven N.C.O.'s and thirty Riflemen. A second cage was in course of preparation and was completed on the 7th. Each cage contained roughly 900 internees. They were accommodated in huts, and each camp was self-contained with cook-houses, etc., and a recreation ground.

18th.—The Warren Hastings was successfully celebrated. The W.O.'s and sergeants entertained the officers at a Concert and afterwards played them in a Billiard Tournament.

17th.—One of the sentries on guard at the Internment Camp, after warning a group of internees four times to keep back from the barbed wire, fired a shot and killed two of them. A Court of Inquiry was held, and the action of the sentry was justified.

18th.—A raid was carried out in Newcastle on two houses, where a prominent Sinn Feiner was thought to be taking refuge. The wanted man was not found.

29th.—Captain C. H. Hordern was posted to the Battalion. The defences of the camp had now been completed. The perimeter of the camp, approximately 4500 yards, had been surrounded by a barbed wire fence, 5 yards in

depth. The defences were strengthened by Blockhouses, at suitable points.

February.

8rd.—2nd Lieut. J. W. W. Cripps, posted to the Battalion on first appointment.

8th.—Lieut. P. Keevill, M.C., retires.

11th.—The Jester Concert Party visited the camp, and gave an excellent variety entertainment.

22nd.—A draft of six O.R.'s joined from the Rifle Depot.

28th.—Lieut. T. St. V. W. Troubridge, M.B.E., promoted Captain (19/12/20).

March.

1st.—A draft of one sergeant and thirty-two O.R.'s joined from the Rifle Depot.

R.-S.-M. Tedder, M.C., discharged under K.R. 892 (xvii).

C.-S.-M. J. Horton, D.C.M., M.M., promoted W.O., Class 1, and appointed R.-S.-M.

At this time seventeen N.C.O.'s and fifty-five Riflemen were on guard daily. It was found just possible to rapidly train and exercise each draft of recruits in Table "A" and "L," before they were sent to duty. Any sort of Company training was quite out of the question. The N.C.O.'s and men doing duty were having twenty-four hours on guard in every seventy-two hours, and this continued until the internees were released on December 7th.

9th.—For gallant service rendered in Ireland, Lieut. J. H. T. C. Butler was awarded the M.B.E.

C.-S.-M. G. Francis was awarded the medal of the O.B.E.

April.

12th.—Draft of thirty-six O.R.'s joined from the Rifle Depot.

May.

7th.—Lord Robert Manners' Cup won by the Holder, Sergt. Ryall.

25th.—Bandmaster T. Brown and thirty-one of the Band, who had been at Aldershot, joined the Battalion.

June.

22nd.—A Composite Company, under Captain C. H. Hordern, proceeded to Belfast for duty during the visit

of His Majesty The King, for the opening of the Northern Parliament. Captain and Brevet Major P. J. R. Currie, O.B.E., M.C., was temporarily attached to the Staff of Major-General Sir E. G. T. Bainbridge, K.C.B., during the opening of Parliament.

July.

2nd.—Lieut. H. C. H. Illingworth, M.C., posted to the Battalion.

8th.—Captain R. O. Meyrick resigned his commission.

22nd.—A successful Race Meeting was held, of which a separate account appears elsewhere.

A Novices' Boxing Competition was held on the 27th, 28th and 29th. Quite a number of promising boxers were discovered, and all the fights were well fought to a finish.

27th.—A tunnel dug by the internees from inside the cage was discovered, and the attempt to escape frustrated. The tunnel, which originated from one of the huts, was about 80 yards long, and led underneath the road and clear outside the camp.

28th.—A draft of 106 O.R.'s proceeded to the Rifle Depot for drafting to India.

August.

4th.—The Dramatic Club produced "The Silver King," which was much appreciated by everyone.

7th.—It was found impossible, owing to the number of men on duties, to hold an Athletic Sports Meeting; but a few events were organised each fortnight, some of them counting points towards the Athletic Challenge Shield. The final fortnightly meeting was held on August 7th, and C Company, having obtained most points, were declared the winners.

28th.—2nd Lieut. P. R. G. Johnstone posted to the Battalion on first appointment.

31st.—Captain and Brevet Major L. G. Moore, D.S.O., posted to the Battalion.

The Company Challenge Shield, for which points are allotted for Football, Cricket, Hockey, Athletic and Boxing, was won for the year by C Company.

All officers and fifty per cent. of O.R.'s were re-called

from leave in view of the probability of a breakdown of the London Conference.

During the "Truce" in Ireland, the vigilance of the sentries, on the Internment Camp, had to be fully maintained. There was an epidemic of escapes from the Internment Camps in Ireland, and it was, therefore, especially satisfactory that not a single internee escaped from the camps at Ballykinlar.

September.

30th.—Captain H. C. E. Mauduit, M.C., off strength on posting to 3rd Battalion.

October.

3rd.—A draft of eighty O.R.'s proceeded to the Rifle Depot, prior to embarking for the 3rd Battalion.

Captain T. N. F. Wilson, D.S.O., M.C., posted to the Battalion on relinquishing the appointment of Adjutant.

Lieut. G. W. E. J. Erskine appointed Adjutant.

7th.—Five internees were caught in the act of escaping through the barbed wire.

10th.—R.-S.-M. Horton, D.C.M., M.M., met with a serious motor accident, and was transferred to the Military Hospital, Belfast.

November.

4th.—A draft of thirty-eight O.R.'s arrived from the Rifle Depot.

December.

6th.—Agreement reached between British Government and Sinn Fein.

7th.—All internees were released from Ballykinlar.

20th.—Forty-five O.R.'s proceeded to Rifle Depot, for posting to 3rd Battalion.

25th.—Christmas Day was celebrated in the usual way.

The following officers and W.O.'s were serving with the Battalion on December 31st:—

Lieut.-Colonel R. G. Jelf, C.M.G., D.S.O.	—	Commanding Officer.
Major E. B. Denison, D.S.O., M.C.	—	Second in Command.
Lieut. G. W. E. J. Erskine	—	Adjutant.
Capt. H. Moulsher	—	Quartermaster.
„ L. A. N. Morris	—	Assistant Adjutant.
Lieut. B. T. Wolfe (A.E.C.)	—	Education Officer.
„ A. Hopkins, D.C.M.	—	Messing Officer.

A COMPANY.

Capt. D. B. Morrieson.

Lieut. J. H. T. C. Butler, M.B.E.

,, C. E. W. Birkett, M.C.

B COMPANY.

Capt. T. N. F. Wilson, D.S.O., M.C.

2nd Lieut. J. W. W. Cripps.

2nd Lieut. T. L. Timpson.

C COMPANY.

Capt. and Brevet Major P. J. R. Currie, O.B.E., M.C.

Capt. T. St. V. W. Troubridge, M.B.E.

Lieut. G. A. Langley, M.C.

2nd Lieut. O. N. D. Sismey.

,, P. R. G. Johnstone.

D COMPANY.

Capt. C. H. Hordern.

Lieut. D. G. Buxton.

Lieut. H. C. H. Illingworth, M.C.

Capt. and Brevet Major C. Grattan-Bellew, M.C., Commanding Details, Aldershot.

Capt. and Brevet Major S. H. Ferrand, D.S.O., M.C., Attached to the Rifle Depot.

Lieut. J. Hughes, on leave pending retirement.

Bandmaster Brown, T.

C.-S.-M. Goodall, J.

R.-S.-M. Horton, J., D.C.M., M.M.
(Hospital).

C.-S.-M. Lister, F., D.C.M., M.M.

Act. R.-S.-M. Francis, G.

C.-S.-M. I.M. Painting, T., M.M.

R.-Q.-M.-S. Hind, G.

C.-S.-M. Bennett, F.

MUSKETRY, 1921

Musketry this year was again carried out under the greatest difficulties, the chief disadvantage being the large number of all ranks who were on guard every day. Companies were thus unable to fire as complete units and parties had to be made up, who were only able to fire every third day, doing their guards and duties in between.

In spite of everything, Table "A" was fired with good results, the Battalion averaging over 1st Class Shot, as is shown by the Company scores.

The Battalion had three very successful rifle meetings, which were comprised of individual, team and pool shoots.

The Battalion entered for the following A.R.A. Competitions:—

- | | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|---|---|---|-------------------|
| 1. | The Hopton Cup | - | - | - | 3 teams. |
| 2. | Young Soldiers' Cup | - | - | - | 1 team. |
| 3. | Company Match | - | - | - | 1 ,, (A Company.) |
| 4. | King George Cup | - | - | - | 1 ,, |
| 5. | The Lewis Gun Match. | | | | |
| 6. | The Henry Whitehead Cup. | | | | |

(Results not yet published.)

R.-S.-M. Horton, D.C.M., M.M., C.-S.-M. I.M. Painting, M.M., and Sergt. Byrne went to Bisley; they were greatly handicapped by not being able to take their own rifles over.

R.-S.-M. Horton, D.C.M., M.M.—Queen Mary - - 4th.

239 recruits fired Table "A," averaging 114.8, the last two parties having to fire late in the year under rather bad weather conditions.

BEST SHOT, W.O.'s, SERGEANTS, AND L.-SERGEANTS.

No. 6837152, C.-S.-M. Lister, F., D.C.M., M.M. Score 181. B Company.

BEST SHOT, CORPORALS, L.-CORPORALS, AND RIFLEMEN.

No. 6837781, Corpl. Rhoods, C. Score 166. B Company.

COMPANY SHOTS.

				Score
A Coy.	No. 6841025,	L.-Corpl. Massey, C.	- -	164
B	" "	6837152, C.-S.-M. Lister, F.,	D.C.M., M.M.	181
C	" "	6837839, Sergt. Pretty, W.	- -	171
D	" "	6837156, C.-S.-M. I.M. Painting, T.,	M.M.	172
Band,	" "	6837781, L.-Sergt. Rhoods, C.	- -	166

FIELD SPORTS

Owing to the impossibility of getting all the good runners together on the same day (the duties being too heavy to allow it), the Sports this year were held in four meetings, at fortnightly intervals, from May 29th to August 7th.

In each meeting, only one or two events counted towards the Athletic Shield, which is held by the winning Company. The remaining events were in the nature of practice and amusement. In the latter class were such events as Sack Bumping, Boat Race, Wheelbarrow Race, Battalion Staff Race (won by the Officers), Inter-Rank Relay (won by the Corporals). All of these caused some excitement and great amusement.

The following events counted towards the Athletic Shield:—

100 Yards.—1, Lieut. Langley (C); 2, Sergt. Carter (A); 3, Rfn. Benoist (A).

Half Mile.—1, Rfn. Tutchet (A); 2, Rfn. Cogdell (C); 3, Bugler Bateman (A).

High Jump.—1, Sergt. McRae (B); 2, Sergt.-Bugler Westwood (D); 3, Sergt. Bridge (D).

Long Jump.—1, 2nd Lieut. Sismey (C); 2, Lieut. Langley (C); 3, Sergt. Bridge (D).

Quarter Mile.—1, Rfn. Verity (A); 2, Lieut. Langley (C); 3, Rfn. Fisher (B).

Tug-of-War.—Final—B Company beat C Company, 2-0.

Inter-Company Relay Race.—1, C Company; 2, B Company; 3, A Company; 4, D Company.

Mile.—1, Rfn. Cogdell (C); 2, Sergt. Ryall (D); 3, Corpl. Dixon (B).

FINAL RESULTS FOR ATHLETIC SHIELD.

1.—C Company	—	—	—	—	—	22½ points.
2.—B	—	—	—	—	—	13 „
3.—A	—	—	—	—	—	11 „
4.—D	—	—	—	—	—	6½ „

ROBERT MANNERS CUP.

This Cup was run for on May 7th, 1921, over a course of about four miles. The course lay over hilly and broken country, except for the last half-mile to finish down a road. There were 59 starters and 48 finished.

The Colonel started the field. Sergt. Ryall led the whole way, and won in the very good time of 21 mins., followed by Sergt. Worster in 21 mins. 38 secs., Rifleman Cogdell coming in third in 10 secs. later. The run was a great success, and it was very satisfactory to see such a large number of starters.

FOOTBALL

It has been on the whole a very successful season, considering the many handicaps, such as bad grounds, wet weather, the difficulty of getting up teams owing to duties, leave and other causes. But in spite of all those things, great keenness has been shown.

In September, as the strength of the Battalion was very weak, instead of the usual Inter-Platoon League, an Inter-Company League was started. This Competition unfortunately had to be abandoned, before its completion, both owing to the above-mentioned causes, and also so as to give the Battalion Team time and grounds to practise. The Inter-Company Competition will not be started till the Battalion returns to Aldershot.

Both in the Army Cup and Irish Army Cup, perhaps luck has been a little against us, though in the third round of the Irish Army Cup we were beaten by a really better team, the 1st Norfolk Regiment.

ARMY CUP.—*First Round.*

v. 1ST BATTALION D.C.L.I.

Played at Ballykinlar, October 29th, 1921. Team:—

Bdm. Nappin, goal; Sergt. Allen and Rfn. Leverington, backs; Corpl. Cunningham, Sergt.-Bugler Westwood (capt.), and Rfn. Daly, half-backs; Bdm. Cecil, Bdm. Sonnex, Rfn. Verity, Sergt. McRae, and Sergt. Mansbridge, forwards.

As usual, a very strong wind, and Westwood, winning the toss, decided to play against it. In the first half the D.C.L.I. had the best of the game, but they managed to score only once. Our forwards broke away on several occasions, Verity being very prominent, and they were rather unlucky not to score.

In the second half we had all the best of the game, McRae scoring once magnificently, but with a little more good fortune we would have scored several points more. "Time" went with the score at 1-1, and it was decided to play a quarter of an hour each way extra.

In this extra time we again had the best of the game, especially during the last ten minutes; but the Cornwalls managed to score once more, and we did not, largely owing to the extraordinarily good play of the D.C.L.I.'s goalkeeper. Final score:—1st D.C.L.I., 2; 1st K.R.R.C., 1.

IRISH ARMY CUP.

*First Round.—Bye.**Second Round.*

v. R.A.S.C.

Played at Ballykinlar, November 16th, 1921. Team:—

Bdm. Nappin, goal; Sergt. Allen and Rfn. Leverington, backs; Corpl. Cunningham, Sergt.-Bugler Westwood (capt.), and Rfn. Daly, half-backs; Sergt. Mansbridge, Bdm. Sonnex, Rfn. Verity, Sergt. McRae, and Rfn. Stewart, forwards.

This was rather a runaway victory for us. We had quite obviously been able to get in more practice, and perhaps we were more used to an exceedingly bad ground. There is little to say about this match, as it was more or less our game from the beginning. Verity scored five goals himself, Sonnex two goals, and McRae one goal. Final score:—1st K.R.R.C., 8; R.A.S.C., 0.

Third Round.

v. 1ST BATTALION NORFOLK REGIMENT.

Played at Ballykinlar, December 3rd, 1921. Team:—

Bdm. Nappin, goal; Sergt. Allen and Capt. Wilson, backs; Corpl. Cunningham, Sergt.-Bugler Westwood (capt.), and Rfn. Daly, half-backs; Sergt. Byrne, Bdm. Sonnex, Rfn. Verity, Sergt. McRae, and Rfn. Stewart, forwards.

Again a strong wind, and, winning the toss, we played against it. The Norfolks had all the best of this first half, but owing to a very fine defence on the part of our backs and halves (our goalkeeper was always good), they failed to score. Our team was disorganized early in the game, Westwood having his eye cut rather badly (he could only see out of one eye for several days), but he pluckily decided to go on playing though it had to be at outside left. This did not seem to make much difference to the team in the remainder of the first half, but in the second half they found it very hard to play together, and it became

clear that the Norfolks were the better team. In spite of this, McRae scored for us first. Then our luck again failed us, for Capt. Wilson accidentally touched the ball in the penalty area, and the Norfolks managed to score from the penalty given.

Extra time was then played, and the Norfolks scored another goal. This was by far the best game of the season, and with more luck we might have beaten them, even though they were a slightly better team. Final score:—1st Norfolk Regt., 2; 1st K.R.R.C., 1.

RESULTS OF FRIENDLY MATCHES PLAYED.

				<i>goals</i>
1st K.R.R.C. v. 1st D.C.L.I.	-	-	Lost	2-1
" " v. 1154 M.T. Coy., R.A.S.C.	-	-	Won	3-0
" " v. R.A.M.R., Belfast	-	-	Draw	3-3
" " v. R.I.C., Newtownards	-	-	Lost	2-1
" " (2nd XI) v. R.I.C., Downpatrick	-	-	Won	2-1

HOCKEY

There has not been very much hockey played this season, for much the same reasons as mentioned at the beginning of the football, *i.e.*, bad grounds, weather, etc. But there have been several friendly games between the Officers and the Band, and we also entered for the Irish Army Hockey Cup.

First Round.

1ST K.R.R.C. v. 1ST D.C.L.I.

Played at Downpatrick, November 10th, 1921. Score:—1st D.C.L.I., 2; 1st K.R.R.C., 1.

AN AFFAIR OF AMBUSH

In July Lord Bangor was kind enough to invite some officers over to Castleward to play tennis. Castleward was some fifteen miles from Ballykinlar, the road for a good part of the distance running along the coast. Three officers eventually started out in an old Ford hired for the occasion.

The day before a wire was sent to Castleward, giving the names and probable time of arrival of the three officers. This wire caused a certain amount of anxiety before starting off, which might have been fully justified by the turn that events took.

The three officers were armed, two with small automatics, and one with a Service revolver, which he changed for an automatic at the last moment. As this was before the "Truce" no officers went about unarmed to even the most harmless entertainment. The journey was quite uneventful

till arriving at a cross-road some three miles from Castleward. When the car was about fifty yards from the cross-road, two men in civilian clothing jumped out of the ditch by the side of the road. The driver of the hired Ford immediately slowed down. As at this time action of this nature by civilians was highly suspicious, and men were shot on sight for less, the officers in the car yelled to the driver to go on as fast as he could, at the same time feeling for their revolvers. Luckily the driver obeyed, and, sliding down as low as he could under the wheel, still keeping control of the car, drove for all he was worth. Presumably he hoped to get some cover from the back of the driver's seat and the officers in the back seat. As the car dashed past the men, they jumped out of the way and levelled revolvers at the occupants, who promptly covered them with their own revolvers. The officers expected a shot at any second, but did not like to fire themselves unnecessarily, as they each only had six rounds apiece, and thought this was only the prelude to a bigger ambush. More than once, though their fingers started to press the trigger, expecting every second to run into the rest of the ambush, the car and its occupants arrived at Castleward without being molested, much to their surprise. Here they found a large tennis party in full swing. They drew Lord Bangor aside and suggested that, as the house was probably surrounded, they had better make the best of their way home at once, in order not to implicate the inhabitants of Castleward. However, neither Lord nor Lady Bangor would hear of this, but insisted that the tennis party should in no way be interfered with. A Council of War was then held, and on Lady Bangor's suggestion a message was written out, which was to be dispatched to Ballykinlar by one of the members of the house party. Meanwhile revolvers were placed in a handy position near by, on the garden seats, and tennis was soon in full swing again.

What seemed to confirm the opinion that an ambush had been prepared was the fact that the officers were informed that the local Post Office officials had distinctly Sinn Fein tendencies, and the wire sent the previous day, which had already been mentioned, must have passed through their hands.

About half an hour later a local District Inspector arrived with about eight specials in a Crossley, driven at a tremendous pace. The Crossley skidded to a standstill by the tennis courts in front of the house, and the District Inspector at once became very busy taking notes of the ambush. He seemed very indignant that the officers had not wasted their precious ammunition, and fired on the two men they saw. However, he ducked off again in the Crossley in a whirlwind of gravel to try and unravel the mystery.

For the next hour there was no further development, and everyone settled down to enjoy the tennis. The District Inspector then arrived again on the scene with two Crossley loads of Specials, and was at once bombarded with questions as to what luck he had had in finding the marauders.

He had apparently solved the mystery, and, much to everyone's amusement and also indignation, stated that the ambush was merely two Special Constables in plain clothes apparently out to see what they could get. The District Inspector did not now appear so indignant that the three officers had not shot. Doubtless the two Constables were themselves surprised to find harmless civilians in a motor armed with revolvers.

Meanwhile great excitement had been caused in the camp at Ballykinlar. The message sent from Castleward had been altered in transmission, and, when it was received, read that the three officers were actually besieged at Castleward.

The alarm was blown, and lorries were promptly prepared. The troops were only too anxious to go, for they saw a chance of getting to close quarters with the Shinnars, and, if necessary, avenging the death of the three officers or effecting their rescue. The difficulty was to prevent the lorries getting overloaded, but they eventually left with rather more than their normal load. On the way they met a cyclist who did not halt when challenged. Thinking he must be an outpost of the ambush, the leading lorry dashed after him and soon overtook him. The officer in charge of the lorry questioned him closely, but, finding his answers satisfactory, contented himself with running a sword into both tyres and giving the man half-a-crown

in case he had made a mistake. The lorries eventually arrived at Castleward in record time, having swung round every corner on two wheels. Great was their disappointment when, on arriving at Castleward, they found a quiet tennis party proceeding, instead of the dead bodies of the three officers laid out on the tennis court.

However, the whole affair was explained, and, while the officers were regaled with unlimited strawberries and cream, the troops rested in the shade and watched the tennis.

The whole cavalcade then returned to camp, to hope that an evil fate would overtake the two rascals who were at the bottom of the trouble.

THE RACE MEETING

On Friday, July 22nd, the 1st Battalion held a Race Meeting on the sands at Ballykinlar. Horses from the 1st and 2nd Battalions competed. Proceedings were none too auspicious, as, on arriving on the course, we found that it was being swept by waves; also there was a strong wind blowing, that absolutely defied the Mess Tent to remain standing. We started off with a Mule Race, and six competitors faced the starter. They got away to a good start and a fine race ensued, the favourite, "Bob," winning by a neck, owing to the activity of his jockey, who planted more blows on his ribs per second than his less agile opponents.

The race for first-class horses was voted a good thing for Captain Wilson's "Ginger," who never caused her supporters any anxiety, and, admirably handled by her astute owner rider, she scored by three-quarters of a length from "Lady," ridden by Lieut. Bennett.

For the next race, five went to the post. After a good start Captain Jacques, on "The Flapper," took the lead and was never headed, winning easily by a length, though "Tommy," well ridden by Lieut. Trotter, came up with a strong run at the finish, and beat Colonel Jelf on "Queen Bee" for second place.

The next race was voted a good thing for Major Currie's "Babs," if only she would condescend to jump off at the start. At the start "Babs" was badly left, and Colonel Jelf on his "Jolly Waggoner" and Mr. Lister on "Orange William" raced together till half way, when Captain Jacques joined them on the "Tortoise"; "Jolly Waggoner" dropped back beaten, and after a good race the "Tortoise" ran on to win by a length.

The first three races were over four furlongs, the succeeding three were only two and a half furlongs, and the grooms were up; it was hoped by this to alter the results, but all three horses won again, Hitchcox and Parrock showing very good form in the saddle.

A "Tote" was in active operation all the afternoon, and proved very popular, though all the winners were returned at a very short price, the stable secrets having apparently all got out.

The racing on the whole was very good and there were plenty of exciting finishes, which were judged by the Commanding Officer, Captain Jacques officiating as Starter.

SPORT AT BALLYKINLAR

Compared with many other parts of Ireland the rough shooting round Ballykinlar Camp is by no means first-class, yet by strenuous work and perseverance quite a good bag has again been obtained since the season opened; shooting has been our most popular and only recreation, amusement and exercise. But, unfortunately, other people have followed our example, and since the Truce the number of guns in the neighbourhood have considerably increased. Officers of other units and civilians, too, try their luck on the bogs, with the inevitable result that all the best and likely places within reach of the camp were shot out very early in the season. To obtain our bag and keep the larder supplied we had to make expeditions further afield, or confine our attention to the tidal bays and shore shooting. No matter how often the bays were disturbed, nothing

seemed to drive away the wild fowl, though naturally they became exceedingly shy and cunning.

Early in the season and before other people took up shooting we found a fair number of home-bred duck and snipe. Owing to the open weather, however, the foreign snipe and wild fowl were late coming in, nor did they ever arrive in any large numbers. A few widgeon appeared on the Bay at the beginning of December, but it was not till after the wild weather at the end of the month that many were seen. More curlew, plover and shore birds were seen this winter than last, and a visit to the Bay always entailed an expenditure of cartridges. Two or three woodcocks were seen, but none were shot. Of partridges, so far as was known, two brace survived the previous season, and in September there were about seven brace round about the camp. After being pursued and shot at for a couple of weeks the few survivors disappeared off the ground. In August and the beginning of September when the reeds were high, the want of a well-trained retriever lost us many duck and snipe, so endeavours were made to obtain a suitable dog. At last one was heard of which, from its description (on paper), sounded promising. Its qualifications were many; amongst others, it retrieved well, was fat and affectionate and according to the owner was just the dog for camp or barrack life. In due course the dog arrived; it certainly was fat and showed a strong inclination to lie down every few yards, but his ideas of retrieving duck or snipe were nil and when freed with a hare he tried to eat it. As the dog was on approval, he was returned. Thereupon the owner wrote to say he could not understand the dog not retrieving and asked us whether we had tried him with a handkerchief or tobacco pouch. We invested in four ferrets, which were used with moderate success in the warren round the camp. There were hundreds of rabbits in this warren, but, being hunted by the troops and the "Bally-kinlar Rabbit Pack," they were shy and desperately hard to bolt. An afternoon's rabbiting usually ended by having to smoke or dig out the ferrets, whether muzzled or not.

In May last an invitation was received to shoot young rooks, and on the 17th six guns, using between them four miniature-range rifles, accounted for 152. Again on the

18th, 254, and on the 28rd, 54. Some of the rooks were brought to camp in a wheelbarrow and cooked. On September 2nd eight guns shot 58 wood pigeons. The next best day was on the 9th, when three guns bagged 16. The best bag of redshank in one day was 14. These birds seem to be harder to hit than snipe, and were generally shot by walking up the bay in line or standing on a bridge and having them driven over the guns.

The two tidal bays near camp afforded us the most sport, as one was certain of shots at either duck, curlew, plover, redshank, dunlin, etc. Sometimes we tried fighting, at others walking up the bay in line at low tide. Fighting was difficult, as it takes years of experience and close observation to accurately estimate the behaviour of the various wild fowl, according to tide and wind. At Ballykinlar, moreover, we were handicapped by complete lack of local assistance. But in time certain rules of fighting gradually evolved and were sometimes applied with success.

Three guns out fighting one windy afternoon in November shot 7 golden plover, 8 redshank, 1 snipe and 3 curlews. The wind was so strong that the birds were flying low, coming on to the bay at low tide to feed. Cripps succeeded in killing two "fighting" curlew at one shot.

By walking up the Bay at low tide the plover, flocks of dunlin, etc., would be driven forward to the head of the Bay, when they would break back over the line of guns, a wind in the same direction as the guns were walking helped to keep the birds low.

On Boxing Day eleven guns were out and walked the Bay in line. Several hundred widgeon were first put up, but these passed over our heads at an incredible height, in spite of a strong wind against them. Two, however, were killed and two more wounded but not retrieved. An oyster-catcher ran the gauntlet of the line and lived to tell the tale. The bag that day consisted of 2 widgeon, 1 plover, 7 dunlin, 5 redshank, 1 wood pigeon; total, 16 heads.

Since the last account appeared in the *Chronicle* the total bag for 1920-21 amounted to 605.

Season 1921 up to December 31st inclusive :—

Partridges	-	-	-	4	Plover :—				
Hares	-	-	-	2	Green	-	-	-	15
Rabbits	-	-	-	88	Golden	-	-	-	11
Pigeon	-	-	-	122	Ringed	-	-	-	31
Snipe	-	-	-	128	Grey	-	-	-	3
Teal	-	-	-	5	Redshank	-	-	-	71
Duck :—					Turnstone	-	-	-	9
Shelduck	}				Oyster Catcher	-	-	-	15
Mallard					Dunlin	-	-	-	147
Shoveller		-	-	39	Bar-tail Godwit	-	-	-	3
Scaup					Curlew	-	-	-	22
Widgeon					Greenshank	-	-	-	1
					Stint	-	-	-	2
					Various	-	-	-	18
					Total	-	-	-	736

(Various includes Hawks, Rats, Cat, Coot, Cormorant, Dabchick, Magpie, Herons, and a Gull mistaken for a Curlew.)

REGIMENTAL RECORDS

2nd BATTALION THE KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS

January.—The New Year found the Battalion distributed as follows :—

Headquarters, A and D Companies at Carrickfergus.

B Company, under Captain E. F. Campbell, D.S.O., at Monaghan.

C Company, under Captain C. H. Dowden, D.S.O., M.C., at Cavan.

Major J. S. Mellor, O.B.E., M.C., joined the Battalion on January 1st.

On January 8th Major and Brevet Lieut.-Colonel W. D. Barber, M.C., left the Battalion, on proceeding to the Staff College, Camberley.

On the 19th 18 other ranks joined the Battalion from Portsmouth.

On the 30th a party of 2 officers and 30 other ranks, under Lieut. R. G. W. Bewicke Copley, M.C., left in six Crossley Cars for Cavan, to co-operate with C Company in some operations at Ballyconnell, where they established a Police Barracks. The party returned to Carrick without incident. At Monaghan B Company were kept extremely busy by day and night carrying out constant raids and searches for arms, and a good many arrests were made, but without any special incident, except at Lackan, where a party, under Captain Campbell, in two impressed cars (the obtaining of the authority for payment of which has given the Adjutant useful and we will hope congenial occupation ever since), was fired upon whilst trying to surprise a party who were sleeping in a disused barn. The party unfortunately escaped, but the barn was burned. Fourteen bicycles and some arms were captured.

On the 27th it was reported that the Belfast Boycott, which had been in abeyance for some time, had been re-started under the auspices of the I.R.A. At Cavan during

the month a number of searches and arrests were also made, but without any special incident of note.

February.—On February 9th 15 other ranks joined from the 8rd Battalion.

On the 10th Lieut. C. H. D. King, D.S.O., M.C., with 26 other ranks joined the Battalion from Portsmouth.

On the 19th A Company, under Major F. W. Parish, D.S.O., M.C., proceeded to Clones for duty and took over the Workhouse there. On the same day 40 other ranks arrived from the 4th Battalion in India, without any previous notification of any sort.

On the 21st 2nd Lieut. H. J. A. Scott Makdougall joined the Battalion on first posting.

On the 25th 2nd Lieut. J. H. Walford joined the Battalion on first posting.

On the 26th Battalion Headquarters and D Company moved by train from Sunnylands Camp to the Workhouse, Clones, where Battalion Headquarters has remained ever since.

Meanwhile, on the 17th, B Company at Monaghan had effected a very useful capture. A party under Lieut. M. D. B. Lister and 2nd Lieut. A. G. Bennett, in two tenders, were returning from a patrol through Scotstown, when they were fired on from some distance away, the shots passing over 2nd Lieut. Bennett's tender. The cars at once proceeded as near as possible to where the firing had come from; two patrols searched the ground. Meanwhile, the escort to the tenders, under L.-Corpl. A. Butler, searched a cow-shed close by and found nine civilians armed with shot-guns. L.-Corpl. Butler at once called upon them to surrender, which they did without resistance. From their account the men who had fired on the cars had left the shed a short time before.

March.—March 1st. Lieut. J. A. Campbell joined the Battalion from the Rifle Depot.

March 2nd. Owing to the shortage of senior officers in the Battalion, Major F. L. Pardoe, D.S.O., joined the Battalion from the Rifle Depot for temporary duty.

March 22nd. A report was received in the early morning that an attack on a large scale had been made in the village of Rosslea, in County Fermanagh, about five miles away.

Lieut. J. A. Campbell with a bicycle patrol proceeded to the spot and found that two loyalists, Sergeants in the Ulster B. Specials, had been murdered, another man wounded and several houses burned. The attackers, who appeared to have been in very large numbers, had disappeared. A search was made and one rifle, two shot-guns and a bomb were found. It was expected that reprisals on the part of the loyalists would follow that night and precautions were taken to meet any contingency that might occur, but nothing happened.

A firing party, Band and Buglers, the whole under the command of Major F. L. Pardoe, D.S.O., attended the funeral of the murdered men two days later and rendered military honours.

On the 3rd of this month Major J. S. Mellor, O.B.E., M.C., proceeded to England on leave pending retirement.

April.—Nothing of outstanding interest occurred during the month. The Battalion was constantly engaged in searches and raids for arms or men "on the run," both by day and night, and a number of the latter were captured.

On the 28th, on a report being received about 7 a.m. that the R.I.C. Barracks at Ballybay were being attacked, a party in two Crossleys, under Major F. L. Pardoe, D.S.O., proceeded to that place from Clones, whilst another in a 3-ton lorry and a Ford van, under Lieut. Lister, went from Monaghan. On arrival they found that a Unionist's house had been burnt and a few shots fired at the R.I.C. Barracks. No serious attack had been made and all was quiet when our parties arrived.

May.—On the 5th Major F. W. Parish, D.S.O., M.C., left the Battalion to take up the appointment of Brigade-Major 2nd London Brigade.

On May 8th a most successful engagement was fought by a detachment of C Company, under Captain C. H. Dowden, D.S.O., M.C. At 5.30 a.m., whilst engaged in co-operation with the R.I.C. in conducting a house-to-house search in the area of Lappenduff, Co. Cavan, a party consisting of Captain C. H. Dowden, D.S.O., M.C., C.-S.-M. Francis, D.C.M., M.M., and Riflemen Williams, Grainger, Withey and Mines and one Constable R.I.C. encountered a Flying Column of the Rebels, numbering 15 men armed with rifles and

revolvers. The Rebels took up a good position on the mountain side and opened fire. After the first twenty minutes Rifleman Mines was shot through the lung, thus reducing the little party to six; it was decided therefore to attempt to deceive the enemy into the belief that they had been surrounded instead of attempting a frontal attack. C.-S.-M. Francis with Riflemen Williams and Grainger and the R.I.C. Constable therefore remained in position and engaged the enemy from in front, whilst Captain Dowden and Rifleman Withey proceeded to circle round the Rebels, firing from different positions as they went. These tactics proved completely successful, and after a two hours' fight the Rebels put up their hands in the belief that they were completely surrounded. It was then found that they had lost one killed and one wounded, in addition ten unwounded prisoners were taken. As far as could be ascertained, the Commandant and two men escaped. Seven rifles, one revolver, 550 rounds of ammunition and a considerable amount of equipment were captured. The Flying Column consisted mostly of Belfast men and had only arrived in the district a few days before. Captain Dowden received the O.B.E. for his share in this very successful little action and Rifleman Mines, who made a good recovery from his wound, has been awarded £1500 compensation, which it is to be hoped he will receive in due course.

On May 17th B Company moved from Monaghan to Clones, their place being taken by D Company, under Captain and Brevet Major G. R. Dubs, m.c.

On the 20th A Company was despatched to Hope Castle, Castle Blayney for duty there. They found a Company of Auxiliaries, who had just arrived, in possession. After a prolonged discussion with military and R.I.C. Headquarters, the Company was ordered to return to Clones, where it arrived back the same evening.

On May 24th, being Empire Day, very successful Sports were held in a field at the back of the Workhouse, which had been hired for drill and recreational purposes. The weather was beautiful, and a full programme was successfully carried through. Great amusement was caused by the arrival off the field of Rifleman Gover, dressed as Michael Collins, armed with an ancient fowling-piece and mounted

on one of the transport mules. The mule fully entered into the spirit of the entertainment, as, after behaving in the most exemplary manner for some time, he suddenly decided he was sick of "Shinners" and sent the Rebel leader a very pretty somersault over his head. Great applause greeted this victory for the Crown Forces.

June.—On June 4th a very successful round-up was carried out in the neighbourhood of Knockatallon, resulting in the capture of eight badly wanted men.

On the 5th a draft of 29 other ranks joined the Battalion.

On the 4th one platoon of B Company, under Lieut. M. D. B. Lister, were sent to Enniskillen on temporary duty, where they remained about a fortnight.

On June 13th a party of 7 officers and 70 other ranks, under Major F. L. Pardoe, D.S.O., left Barracks in cars at 2 a.m., to co-operate in operations which were being carried out by a Cavalry Column, under Colonel Commandant Weir, C.M.G., D.S.O., in the area between Carrickmacross and Ballybay. The above party were responsible for driving and searching an area of about seven miles long by one mile broad, this area having been surrounded by the Cavalry, who picketed the roads and prevented all egress. All males between 16 and 60 were brought to collecting stations at cross roads, where they were interrogated by the R.I.C. Numerous wanted men were arrested. The party arrived at Castleblaney about 3 p.m., where they were billeted by the Company of Auxiliaries at Hope Castle, who were also taking part in the operations, and who made every effort to make both officers and men comfortable. The party left Castleblaney next morning at 3.15 a.m. and carried out a similar operation in the Keady district over a very wild and difficult country. The party returned to Clones about 4.30 p.m.

On June 15th a party of 8 officers and 70 other ranks, under Major F. L. Pardoe, D.S.O., again left Barracks at 1.30 a.m., to co-operate with the Cavalry Column in a further round-up in the Carrickmacross area. This was a very hard day, as the area searched was about eight miles long by one mile broad, and after starting in a dense mist, which made it very difficult to keep direction, the sun came out and the day was extremely hot. The party

returned to Barracks about 4 p.m. As a whole these operations were rather disappointing, no Flying Columns or Rebels of very great importance being met with. They certainly, however, had a very tranquillizing effect on the district, which up to that time had been in a very disturbed state.

On June 17th the Battalion left the 15th Brigade and came under Dublin District, forming part of the 26th (Provisional) Brigade, under Colonel Commandant W. H. L. Allgood, C.M.G., D.S.O.

On June 30th Headquarters and two platoons of A Company, under Captain H. C. Lloyd, M.C., proceeded to Ballybay for duty, where they took over the old Posting Hotel as billets.

July.—On July 2nd the two remaining platoons of A Company proceeded to join their Company at Ballybay. On the same day C Company, under Captain C. H. Dowden, D.S.O., M.C., moved from Cavan to Clones, their place being taken by a Company of the 1st Battalion the Middlesex Regiment.

On July 12th a truce was arranged with the Rebels, to come into force as from mid-day.

On July 25th Major-General G. F. Boyd, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., D.C.M., accompanied by Colonel Commandant W. H. Allgood, C.M.G., D.S.O., visited the Battalion. He made a thorough inspection of the buildings and institutes, etc., at Clones, also at Monaghan and Ballybay, and expressed himself as very pleased with all he saw.

From this month onwards advantage was taken of the truce to send the Companies in turn to do their Annual Musketry at Ballykinlar, where they were attached to our 1st Battalion, which was employed in guarding the Internment Camp there. This arrangement was most popular with all ranks and all thoroughly enjoyed their three weeks' visit to the seaside. Everyone was most grateful to the 1st Battalion for the trouble they took to make all ranks as comfortable as possible.

Now that it was possible to move about the countryside in safety, opportunities were also taken to send representatives to the various athletic meetings which took place at Enniskillen, Belturbet and elsewhere. At them we were

very successful, Sergt. Chadwick, Q.-M.-S. Vincent and Sergt. Austen all doing well and gaining several prizes.

August.—On August 14th, owing to an anticipated breakdown in the negotiations, all officers and fifty per cent. other ranks were recalled off leave. The rupture, however, did not occur and leave was re-opened at the beginning of September.

On August 10th Lieut. R. Pennell, D.S.O., left the Battalion, on promotion to Captain in the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry.

On August 24th Captain D. J. Mitchell, M.C., joined the Battalion and was posted to command C Company.

September.—On September 8th Captain H. F. E. Smith, D.S.O., joined the Battalion and was posted to command D Company.

October.—On October 22nd the Annual Inspection of the Battalion by Colonel Commandant W. H. Allgood, C.M.G., D.S.O. took place.

On October 25th Captain C. H. Dowden, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., retired from the Army.

November.—On November 11th, being Armistice Day, Sports were held successfully in the field behind Barracks. In the evening the Sergeants gave an Impromptu Dance in the Town Hall, Clones.

During the month a lot of Football was played in connection with the Inter-Company Competition for the 26th (P) Brigade. A Company were the winners of the Inter-Company Stage within the Battalion and beat the winning Company of the 1st Middlesex in the Ante-Final; they were, however, beaten after a good game in the Final by the winning Company of the 1st Battalion K.O.Y.L.I.

The Battalion was also very successful at several Boxing Tournaments at Enniskillen and Dundalk. A full account, however, of the Regimental Boxing is given elsewhere.

December.—On December 6th Major (Brevet Lieut.-Colonel) F. G. Willan, C.M.G., D.S.O., joined the Battalion and took over the duties of Second-in-Command.

On the 7th a draft of 88 recruits joined the Battalion from the Rifle Depot.

On the 16th Major (Brevet Lieut.-Colonel) W. D. Barber, M.C., was posted to the Battalion.

On the 22nd a draft of 84 N.C.O.'s and men left the Battalion for the Rifle Depot, *en route* to join the 4th Battalion in India.

This left the Battalion very weak indeed, the total strength in Ireland being approximately 800.

Christmas was celebrated on the 25th with the customary festivities. The Recreation Room was used as a Dining Hall, and a most successful show of decorations carried out by Rifleman Doyle and a party of volunteers.

This ends the record for the Year, which leaves us as it found us, in Ireland.

That the New Year may see us back in Portsmouth before it is far advanced, is the heartfelt wish of all ranks.

ATHLETIC SPORTS

A very successful meeting was held at Clones on Empire Day, May 24th. The weather was ideal, and everyone appeared to thoroughly enjoy themselves.

The following is the programme of events.

Seniors (over 2 Years' Service). 100 Yards.—1st, L.-Corpl. Healey and Sergt. W. Waller, dead heat; 2nd, Sergt. A. C. L. Austin.

This was a great race, it being quite impossible to separate the winners.

Juniors (under 2 Years' Service). 100 Yards.—1st, Boy Crossland; 2nd, L.-Corpl. Allen; 3rd, Boy Lawrence.

Seniors. 880 Yards.—1st, Q.-M.-S. E. J. Vincent; 2nd, Bdm. Ayton; 3rd, Rfn. Dyer.

Juniors. 880 Yards.—1st, L.-Corpl. Allen; 2nd, Boy Hitchcock; 3rd, Rfn. Payne.

Band Boys. 100 Yards.—1st, Boy Crossland; 2nd, Boy Farrell; 3rd, Boy Lawrence.

Boys' Potato Race.—1st, Boy Munday; 2nd, Boy Baker; 3rd, Boy Smeed.

Quoits.—This was won by B Company's No. 1 Team, after an exciting struggle. A Company's No. 1 Team being second.

Relay Race.—The Relay Race, as usual, caused much excitement, being won by Headquarters. A Company was second. The winning team was as follows:—Capt. and Adjutant C. S. Price Davies, m.c., R.-S.-M. F. Tyler, Q.-M.-S. E. J. Vincent, Sergt. A. C. L. Austin, Corpl. F. Dewdney, L.-Corpl. Coleman, Bdm. Maiden, and Boy Farrell.

Six-a-Side Football.—A and B were both at Headquarters, and each entered two teams. The details of C and D, whose Companies were on detachment, found two combined teams.

After some very good matches, A Company's 1st Team beat C and D Companies 2nd Team by 2 goals to 0.

In the Band Boys' Football, Boy Archer's team won by 2 goals and a corner to their opponents' 2 goals.

A second and impromptu meeting was held on Armistice Day, November 11th, in which only the Companies at Clones took part, the weather at this time of year being so uncertain that it was impossible to make any plans until the actual day. Result of events:—

100 Yards.—1st, Corpl. Goodier; 2nd, Sergt. Austin; 3rd, L.-Corpl. Williams.

220 Yards.—1st, L.-Corpl. Williams; 2nd, Sergt. Austin; 3rd, Corpl. Goodier.

440 Yards.—1st, L.-Corpl. Williams; 2nd, Q.-M.-S. Vincent; 3rd, Bdm. Maiden.

880 Yards.—1st, Bdm. Maiden; 2nd, Bdm. Ayton; 3rd, Corpl. Goodier.

Boys' 100 Yards.—1st, Boy Farrell; 2nd, Boy Wolland; 3rd, Boy Smeed.

Long Jump.—Boy Farrell.

As well as these more serious events there was a three-legged race, an apple race for boys, in which they had to extract an apple with their teeth from a bucket of icy cold water, and wrestling on horseback for men and also for boys. The latter contests provided a lot of amusement.

The weather was fine, but a bitterly cold wind resulted in a longish programme being got through in a wonderfully short time. A fortunate thing as the light goes early here at this time of the year.

BOXING

The greatest annoyance that has had to be put up with in Ireland as regard sport has been the splitting up of the Battalion into detachments. First with Headquarters and two Companies at Carrickfergus, one Company at Monaghan, and one at Cavan; and later, Headquarters and two Companies at Clones (one Company of which was at Ballykinlar from July to October), one at Monaghan, and one at Ballybay. This order of things interfered with Boxing more than anything else. Only one Competition was held in Ireland in 1920-21, and that was at Carrickfergus, amongst Headquarters, A and D Companies. It was at Christmas, and

the results were exceedingly Christmassy, especially between two exponents of the noble art, who were also good supporters of the Canteen. They were almost too out of breath to touch each other half-way through the first round, but, finally, though it had been touch and go, A hugged B too hard, and B subsiding was counted out. A staggered to his corner, and was heard to remark that he attributed his win to the fact that B had stupidly thought he could train on beer. However, there were some good fights. During this time C and B Companies had been "doing a bit with the gloves," but had no competition.

A ring was fixed up in the playing field at Clones during the summer, and was used by various people for sparring. But Boxing was rather flat, when a welcome invitation came from the R.I.C., Enniskillen, for us to send some men down there to take part in their Boxing Tournament, in aid of the Fermanagh County Hospital, on November 3rd and 4th, 1921. This opportunity of testing our men was taken and the following were sent down, fights being arranged for them by the R.I.C.

1. Rifleman J. Smith, C Coy., K.O. Constable Smiddy, R.I.C., in first round in six-round contest.
2. Rifleman Downs, B Coy., won on points from T/C. Ashburner, R.I.C. Auxiliary Division, in four-round contest after a good, even fight.
3. L.-Corpl. Hewitt, B Coy., beat T/C. Bell, R.I.C. Auxiliary Division, in first round of four-round contest, referee stopping the fight.
4. Rifleman Roberts, B Coy., beat Special Constable Duncan, R.I.C., in four-round contest, referee stopping the fight.
5. L.-Corpl. Williams, D Coy., beat his opponent easily in a six-round contest.
6. L.-Corpl. Craigie, B Coy., was disqualified in second round of six-round contest for holding, though he was later given a prize.

Thus the Battalion gave a good account of themselves, winning five cups out of six starters, and the sixth getting a prize later. The long programme was excellently organized and some really good Boxing was seen.

The next Boxing event was the 26th (P) Infantry Brigade Team Boxing Competition on November 24th and 25th, 1921, at Dundalk. Entries were limited to two per weight per unit, except in the Boys' Classes, for which entries were unlimited, and into which the Battalion entered eight Boys.

The Battalion came out easily top in this Competition, with 42 points. The 2nd K.O.Y.L.I., second, with 21 points. Other units were the Middlesex Regiment, Royal Artillery and R.A.S.C.

The following were the entries and results (only names of N.C.O.'s and Riflemen of the Battalion being mentioned):

Heavy-Weight.—Rifleman Downs, C Coy. W.O.

Light-Heavy.—Rifleman Hoare, C Coy. W.O.

Middle-Weight.—Rifleman Smith, C Coy., beat Corpl. Vincent, B Coy., on points in Semi-Final, and won the Final in first round with a K.O.

Welter-Weight.—Bdm. Edwards, D Coy., was beaten in the Final on points after an even fight.

Rifleman Roberts, B Coy., and his opponent both disqualified for holding by referee.

Light-Weight.—L.-Corpl. Williams, D Coy., was beaten in first round on points after a close contest with the eventual winner of the Class.

Rifleman Quilter, C Coy., giving away 8lbs., put up a good fight but was beaten in first round. He was awarded a special prize for "good loser."

Feather-Weight.—Corpl. Binding, D Coy., won Semi-Final and Final with K.O. in each case.

Rifleman Lapidge, C Coy., lost in first round, K.O.

THE BOYS.

Class 1.—Eight stone and over.

" 2.—Under 8 stone.

" 3.—Under 7 stone.

Class 1.—Boy Baird won with a K.O. in first fight, but illness prevented him from competing in his next fight.

Boy Lines was K.O. by a Boy in the K.O.Y.L.I., who proceeded to beat Boy Norris on points and Boy Woolmore (who was giving away more than a stone, and was given a special prize for "good loser") in the Final.

Boy Baker and Boy Munday were beaten in first and second rounds respectively.

Class 2.—Boy Henry beat Boy Wolland in the Semi-Final, after one of the best fights of the whole competition. Both boys were in exceedingly good trim.

Boy Henry won the final with some ease.

Class 3.—No entries.

Great difficulty was experienced in getting competitors to the exact weight. One or two of our competitors did the last five miles into Dundalk on foot with the desired results. But one or two had to be left out.

The next Competition was The Dublin District Boxing Competition on December 18th, 14th and 15th, 1921. The Competition was divided into:—

Class A for N.C.O.'s and men who had never won a fight.
Class B for N.C.O.'s and men who had never won a fight
in a formation higher than a Battalion.

Class C for officers.

Enlisted boys at 8st. and under.

Enlisted boys at 7st. and under.

Enlisted boys at 6st. and under.

Only one entry per Battalion per weight in each class. It was extremely hard for us to find boys at the required weights, so we were only able to enter one.

The Battalion set to, to put up a good show. Training and weights was a great difficulty, but Companies were able to work on their men to a certain extent. An "unfortunate incident" made it necessary to prevent three of our possible winners being sent, but after some juggling we were able to find a representative for every weight in Class A and B except Heavy, Light-Heavy and Bantam. The show was a good one from the boxers' point of view, but the attendance was most disappointing for a Garrison of the size that Dublin is at present. The result was most gratifying for the Battalion, and the greatest credit is due to those men who trained and put up such an excellent account of themselves. Results:—

CLASS A.

Middle-Weight.—Rifleman Hoare, C Coy., was K.O. in the first round by the winner of the weight.

Welter-Weights.—Rifleman Miles fought through to the Final, when his opponent gave in.

Light-Weights.—L.-Corpl. Williams won first round; lost in Semi-Final after a good fight.

Rifleman Quilter, C Coy., fought through to the Final, when he was K.O.

CLASS B.

Middle-Weights.—Rifleman Smith, C Coy., only fought twice, his opponent giving in—in the first round in each case.

Welter-Weights.—Rifleman Edwards, D Coy., won his first fight, but was beaten in Semi-Final after a good fight.

Light-Weight.—Rifleman Philips, B Coy., lost in Final after a good fight and an extra round.

Feather-Weight.—Corpl. Binding, D Coy., beaten in first round.

Enlisted Boys.—Boy Wolland fought three fights well, and won in the Final.

Thus the Battalion secured three First Prizes and two Second Prizes, which was equalled by The Cheshire Regiment.

On the year's Boxing, in three Competitions, out of thirty-two competitors, the Battalion have won one Team Prize and nineteen Individual Prizes, including Second Prizes.

SPORT **(Under Difficulties)**

Not even the most optimistic enthusiast could really call County Monaghan a "Sportsman's Paradise," and when, in addition to its natural disadvantages, it is taken into consideration that, up to the beginning of the truce in July, one's fishing or shooting expeditions were always liable to be suddenly terminated by a charge of buck shot in the back of the neck, or, as actually happened on one occasion, to be suddenly changed into a cross-country race, in which the penalty for losing would probably be permanent disqualification for any form of sport whatever in the future, it will be realized that we laboured under considerable disadvantages.

However, some sort of sport is always possible under almost any conceivable circumstances, and in these notes I will endeavour to give some account of how we tried to overcome our difficulties.

As soon as the fishing season arrived, the enthusiasts among us began to try their luck in the local waters. For the reasons given above, it was impossible to go far afield, and the only rivers in the neighbourhood of Clones had the unenviable reputation of containing very few fish, and these, though of great size, were said only to rise during the May fly season, which lasts about a fortnight, and during which, unfortunately, no fisherman was present with the Battalion. This reputation I found to be thoroughly deserved, with the exception of one pool about three miles away, where, until the drought had practically brought all fishing to an end, it was generally possible to get a brace or so on a dry fly. This pool, however, happened to be just below, and completely commanded by, a bridge on the main road, and I often found it difficult to give the requisite attention to the nice manipulation of an Olive Dunn whilst at the same time keeping an unobtrusive

eye on the young gentlemen in the black velour hat, whose interest in me might, or just as possibly might not, be entirely the result of his enthusiasm for dry-fly fishing. However, whatever the difficulties the fishing enthusiast will always fish, and though fish were few and hard to catch we did manage to get a few trout, though nothing of any great size. After the truce, however, I had several nice days on the River Fane between Castleblaney and Dundalk, which is an ideal dry fly stream with some very nice fish in it.

As regards coarse fishing, there were quite a lot of jack in the neighbouring lochs, and a certain number of them were caught, but by far the most successful fishing excursions were those undertaken by the Sergeants' Mess on Loch Erne. One particular occasion will always be remembered by those who saw the return of the party. A huge basket of pike, perch and bream was carried in triumph into the yard, and the Commanding Officer's instant presence was demanded that he might be shewn the result of the day's sport. On the top of the basket reposed in state a mighty bream, weighing between seven and eight pounds, the story of whose capture easily put into the shade any of Zane Grey's "Tales of Fishes," and might well have made Jonah's whale feel a bit anxious for his reputation. As far as could be gathered, after a homeric struggle, which varied with the teller from anything between ten minutes to half an hour, the monster was at last induced to come into the boat. Once there, however, it speedily made its presence felt. It attacked the dog and drove it overboard, so that it swam ashore in a state of panic; flushed with success, it then broke and drank a bottle of Bass, and thus, in a violent state of intoxication, attacked the Bandmaster and broke his camera. This, however, proved its undoing. It was felt that, whilst it lived, no one could be considered safe, and it met its death in the course of a determined counter-attack led by the Officers' Mess Sergeant armed with a meat chopper. Truly a day to be remembered and worthy of special mention in the history of the Irish War.

I will now turn to the less exciting sport of shooting. Here we really were rather lucky, as the truce arrived at just about the beginning of what our local sportsmen con-

sidered the beginning of the season, *i.e.*, the middle of July. Our great ally at first was the village painter, but after a time the fact that the nature of his occupation always necessitated a start half an hour before day-break, and that the result obtained, rarely seemed commensurate with the energy expended, led to these expeditions being discontinued. The parting was hastened by a heated controversy between our friend and the Second-in-Command over the refusal of the latter to massacre a "grand flock of young pheasants" which rose at his feet on August 12th. This refusal was considered not only unsporting but absolutely insane, on the ground, firstly, that they weren't our pheasants anyway, and, secondly, that, even if they had been, "the wrong people" would be sure to get them before October 1st. Later on the snipe came in and a certain number of duck, though there were never a great number of the latter, and almost every afternoon some of us used to go out and bring in a few birds, the Colonel being the most indefatigable, as he generally went out before breakfast as well.

Towards Christmas we were joined by a Medical Officer, who was a very keen sportsman, and whose dog will long be remembered by those who shot with him. For sheer strength of muscle and will power I have never met his equal. He certainly, however, retrieved us a good many duck which would otherwise have been lost. The going was terribly bad, and we were always wet up to the knees and often to the waist, whilst most of us at one time or another took one of those real souses which only those who have attempted to negotiate an Irish bog will appreciate. However, if we did not shoot much we got lots of exercise, and better a ducking than a liver any day.

As the success of the Peace negotiations began to look more assured several of the neighbouring landowners asked us to shoot, and we had some very cheery days' sport. Sir Basil and Lady Brooke, of Colebrook, Co. Fermanagh, were particularly kind in asking officers to stay and shoot, and quite the happiest recollections of Ireland will be of the days spent there, shooting woodcock and wild pheasants, or coursing rabbits in the Park with a bobby pack of deadly efficiency. Such days we shall

remember when much that was dreary and disheartening in the past year is forgotten, for man is happily so constituted that, as the old sun-dial says, he "numbers only the happy hours," and consigns the rest to a merciful oblivion. I will close this record of sport under difficulties with a summary of the bag for the year. In it is included only the game killed on the ground in the neighbourhood of our Quarters at Clones, Monaghan, and Ballybay, over which we had either obtained or assumed permission to shoot, no man preventing us. Bags obtained when shooting with parties in the neighbourhood are, of course, not included.

Pheasants	...	...	...	12	Partridges	...	...	...	2
Mallard	...	...	...	18	Teal	...	...	...	11
Wigeon	...	...	...	1	Pochard	...	...	...	1
Woodcock	...	...	...	5	Snipe	...	...	...	185
Rabbits	...	...	...	53	Pigeon	...	...	...	19
Various	...	...	...	3					
					Total	...	...	...	260

REGIMENTAL RECORDS

3rd BATTALION THE KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS

January 1st.—The Battalion took part in the Station Ceremonial Parade to commemorate the anniversary of the assumption of the title of Empress of India by H.M. Queen Victoria.

January 6th.—Forty-seven other ranks (2-year men) proceeded to Bombay for passage to England.

January 22nd.—As result of recent examination for Certificates of Education, the following awards were made:

1st Class, 4.	1st Class, Group I, 15.
2nd Class, 11.	3rd Class, 18.

February 1st.—Thirty-four N.C.O.'s and Riflemen awarded 3rd Class Certificates of Education.

Battalion Training commenced.

February 2nd.—Lieut. G. N. H. Taunton-Collins joined Battalion from England on first posting and was posted to B Company.

February 7th.—The Battalion, approximately 260 strong, marched out to No. 5 South Camp to complete Battalion Training. The small number of men available was due to one Company being on detachment and one Company remaining in Barracks, to furnish the numerous Garrison and Regimental duties. There are also an excessive number of extra-Regimentally employed men scattered throughout the country.

February 15th.—Captain C. H. Hordern posted to 1st Battalion The King's Royal Rifle Corps, with effect from 17/1/21.

Lieut. J. F. Hare appointed Adjutant 7/10/21, *vice* Captain E. R. H. Herbert.

February 20th.—Thirteen other ranks (2-year men) proceeded to Bombay, *en route* for U.K.

February 26th.—Certificates of Education were awarded as follows:—2nd Class, 12; 3rd Class, 6.

February 28th.—Captain E. R. H. Herbert rejoined Battalion from Staff Captain, Mesopotamia.

March 2nd.—Draft of one sergeant and 108 other ranks joined from England.

March 8th.—2nd Lieut. C. Castle, U.L.I.A., joined and attached to the Battalion and posted to B Company.

Congratulations received from Major-General Sir John Shea, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., Commanding Central Provinces District, on the success of the Boxing Team at Poona.

March 18th.—Government Census of all troops and families taken at 19.00 hours.

March 21st.—The General Officer Commanding made his Annual Inspection and ordered the remainder of the day to be a holiday.

March 30th.—A draft of three corporals and twenty-five Riflemen joined the Battalion from England.

B Company rejoined Headquarters from detachment.

EXTRACT FROM BATTALION ORDERS.

Congratulatory :—

“THE COMMANDING OFFICER WISHES TO CONGRATULATE SERGT.-BUGLER GILMORE AND C.-S.-M. BUCHANAN ON WINNING THE ARMY RIFLE ASSOCIATION GOLD AND SILVER JEWELS RESPECTIVELY IN THE ARMY CHAMPIONSHIP (INDIA).

“THIS IS THE FIRST TIME ON RECORD THAT THE SAME BATTALION HAS GOT THE FIRST AND SECOND PLACES IN THE ARMY CHAMPIONSHIP. IT IS ALSO THE FIRST TIME THAT ANY REGIMENT HAS WON THE ARMY CHAMPIONSHIP BOTH AT HOME AND ABROAD IN THE SAME YEAR.”

N.B.—Lieut.-Colonel W. A. C. Saunders-Knox-Gore, D.S.O., of the 1st Battalion, won the Gold Jewel in the Army Championship at home.

April 11th.—Result of the Annual Classification of Signallers, which took place on 22nd February. Twenty Signallers were examined and all classified as 1st Class Signallers.

The following is an extract from the remarks of Major-General Sir J. S. M. Shea, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., Commanding Central Provinces District, on the annual Inspection Report :

“A remarkably fine Battalion with excellent spirit. Fit in every respect for service.”

April 18th.—Major H. C. Ponsonby, D.S.O., M.C., appointed Officiating G.S.O. 1, Central Provinces District, with effect from 2/4/21.

April 30th.—The Revised Peace Establishment laid down in Army Instruction (India) No. 80 of 1921 taken into force, and Headquarter Company formed.

May 18th.—The following *Gazette* announcement has been received:—

Lieut. and Adjutant J. F. Hare and Lieut. W. H. E. Gott, M.C., to be Captains, 22/1/21.

Captain E. R. H. Herbert passed Higher Standard Hindustani at Bombay, 4/4/21.

6889884 Rifleman R. J. Head awarded 1st Class Certificate of Education, 25/1/21.

Five N.C.O.'s and Riflemen obtained Group I at the same examination.

May 28th.—Lieut. J. R. V. Garton posted to 6th Battalion The King's Royal Rifle Corps, 3/5/21.

June 4th.—Congratulatory telegrams were sent on the occasion of the Birthdays of H.M. The Queen and H.R.H. Princess Christian, and the following were received in reply: From H.M. The Queen:—

“Sincere thanks to all ranks.” MARY R.

“Princess Christian sends warmest thanks to all.”

June 6th.—The following message was received from the General Officer Commanding the District:—

“Please congratulate all ranks on their smart and soldierly appearance on the King's Birthday Parade.”

June 8th.—The following was received from H.M. The King Emperor in reply to a congratulatory telegram sent him on the occasion of his Birthday:—

“As Colonel-in-Chief I have received with much pleasure your loyal message, for which I heartily thank all ranks.”

June 17th.—Twenty-six N.C.O.'s and Riflemen granted 2nd Class Certificates of Education and twenty-four granted 3rd Class Certificates.

July 29th.—Lieut.-Colonel B. J. Majendie, C.M.G., D.S.O., proceeded on leave and Major F. V. Yeats Brown assumed command of the Battalion.

August 2nd.—The following extract from the *London Gazette*, dated 1/7/21, was received:—

K.R.R.C. The undermentioned 2nd Lieuts. to be Lieuts. (December 20th, 1920): C. E. M. Grenville-Grey, A. G. Barker, G. N. H. Taunton-Collins.

August 8th.—Eighty-six N.C.O.'s and Riflemen awarded 2nd Class and ninety-two awarded 3rd Class Certificates of Education. This was the final examination under the old syllabus.

September 14th.—The following messages were exchanged on the occasion of the anniversary of Delhi Day:—

From the 2nd Battalion Ghurkha Rifles.

“Greetings for Delhi Day.” 2ND GHURKHAS.

To 2nd Ghurkha Rifles.

“Many thanks for greetings which are reciprocated by all ranks.”

3RD K.R.R.C.

October 7th.—The following *Gazette* announcement received:—2nd Lieut. J. P. Domville to be Lieut., 2/9/21.

October 11th.—2nd Lieut. K. S. Rajendrasinhji, U.L.I.A., joined Battalion from England and attached to C Company.

October 10th.—Lieut.-Colonel B. J. Majendie, c.m.g., d.s.o., resumed command of the Battalion on return from leave.

October 14th.—2nd Lieut. F. V. L. Dundas joined the Battalion from England on first posting and posted to D Company.

October 16th.—Lieut. G. C. Ashburner rejoined the Battalion, ex leave to U.K.

October 22nd.—Lieut. J. H. Paine rejoined the Battalion, ex leave to U.K.

October 24th.—Captain H. C. E. Mauduit, m.c., joined the Battalion from England and posted to B Company.

Special India Army Order No. 65 received, authorising a Bounty of £50 for all short-service men, who were due to proceed home, to extend their short engagement to a normal period, e.g., seven years with the Colours and five years on the Army Reserve.

This offer did not appear to appeal to those concerned, only a small percentage extended their service.

October 29th.—Lieut. S. G. Stretton, Army Educational

Corps, joined the Battalion from England as Education Officer, in relief of Captain C. N. Allen, 3rd Battalion the Berks Regiment, who accompanied the Battalion from England.

October 31st.—Major A. A. Soames, D.S.O., Captain and Adjutant J. F. Hare and Lieut. P. G. Bower rejoined the Battalion, ex leave to U.K.

November 5th.—The Battalion took part in a Station Ceremonial Parade on the occasion of His Excellency, the Commander-in-Chief's (Lord Rawlinson, G.C.B., G.C.V.O., K.C.M.G., A.D.C.) Inspection of the Mhow Garrison.

The Chief's entire satisfaction of all he saw is confirmed by the following extracts:—

To Major-General R. A. Cassels.

"I should like to let all ranks of the Mhow Garrison know how pleased I was with the parade yesterday.

"The turn-out of every unit on parade was irreproachable. The March Past of the 3rd Battalion K.R.R.C. and the Gallop Past of the 7th Hussars was a clear indication of the high state of discipline and efficiency that these units have attained.

"The parade as a whole was a pleasure to witness, and I desire that all ranks may be made aware of the satisfaction which my inspection of the Mhow Garrison afforded me.

RAWLINSON."

The following telegram relative to the Inspection by the Commander-in-Chief has been received at District Headquarters:—

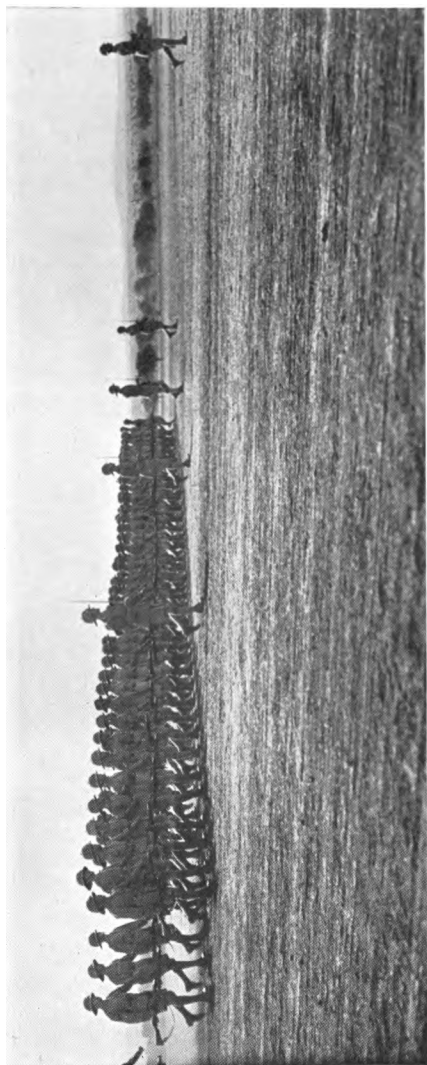
"Very hearty congratulations to you and to troops on Chief's very high praise.

CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF."

The following is an extract from a letter sent to Lieut.-Colonel B. J. Majendie, C.M.G., D.S.O., by Lieut.-General Sir John Shea, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.:—

"I must congratulate you most heartily on the perfectly splendid account which the Chief gave me of your Battalion.

"You may be sure that I was more than delighted when he told me, and I do congratulate you all most heartily.



INSPECTION OF THE 3RD BATTALION BY H. E. THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF (LORD RAWLINSON).

B Company Marching Past. Mhow, November 5th, 1921.

November 7th.—A draft of one sergeant, two corporals and 97 other ranks joined the Battalion from England.

November 11th.—Anniversary of Armistice. The two minutes silence was observed throughout the Station.

December 5th.—The Battalion paraded for inspection by the General Officer Commanding Southern Command.

All Companies completed musketry, but owing to the increased difficulty of the new course the standard was not quite up to the year before, but compared with other units a good average was obtained.

Company Training was carried out by half Battalions. C and D Companies were exercised in the neighbourhood of Jesarnagar and A and B Companies, under Major H. C. Ponsonby, D.S.O., M.C., at Rampura.

The whole Battalion was grieved to hear of the death of Rifleman Dalton, a very popular Rifleman, and a good sportsman, by drowning at the former place.

The Machine Gunners' Annual Course resulted in thirteen Marksman and six 1st Class Gunners, whilst the Signallers acquitted themselves in good style, at the Annual Classification.

In the field of sport we more than held our own.

The Football Team topped the list in the District Rounds, but succumbed to the K.S.L.I. at Poona in the Southern Command Tournament.

Boxing at Mussoorie and Poona (details are given elsewhere) obtained good results, while the team which represented the Battalion at the All India Competition at Bombay carried all before them, winning the Trophy and several Cups.

The principal event was a ten-mile Marathon, which was won by Rifleman LeLuyer with Rifleman Jones fourth. (These two Riflemen ran second and third in the Marathon Race last year.)

With the exception of a wave of malaria, the health of the Battalion was good throughout the year.

The trooping season found us losing 192 3-year men and 18 serving on normal engagements.

The Bounty of £50 previously referred to, induced 88 N.C.O.'s and Riflemen to extend, a small percentage, but much in excess of many units.

POLO, 1921-22

The Battalion team had great hopes of winning the Infantry Tournament in February 1921, as they had won two Tournaments previously, but Major Soames broke his leg out pig-sticking a week before, and the whole team had to be altered. Captain Ireland played back instead of No. 2. Captain Barker dropped back to No. 2, and Grenville-Grey came in at 1. Major Yeats Brown remained No. 3, and took over the captaincy of the team.

In the 1st Round our team defeated the 2nd Ghurkhas easily by 8 goals to 1, scoring 5 goals in the two chukkers, afterwards only cantering to save the ponies.

In the Final we had to play the Seaforth Highlanders, who were better mounted and had played together throughout the winter. During the larger part of the game there was very little in it, but we went to pieces in the fifth chukker, when they scored 5 goals, and we were eventually beaten by 9 goals to 2.

In October the Battalion sent a team, consisting of E. H. Barker, 1; Grenville-Grey, 2; A. Barker, 3; and Soames, back, to a Handicap Tournament at Jhansi, for which there were eight entries.

Just before the 1st Round Grenville-Grey had to retire to Hospital with fever (a great loss to the team) and Eden took his place. We drew a team from the Cavalry School at Saugor in the 1st Round, and were beaten by 4 goals to 3, after a very level game. This team afterwards won the Cup by 3 clear goals in the Final. On the Wednesday we competed in a subsidiary Tournament and played a team of 38rd/34th Cavalry. The score was 1 all at the end of the first chukker, after which we played only three men, and were beaten 3 goals to 1. A. Barker played very well in these two matches, and Captain Eden showed promising form.

During the Mhow Week in December we put a team, consisting of Grenville-Grey, 1; E. H. Barker, 2; A. Barker, 3; and Soames, back, into the Open Tournament for the Dhar Cup. In the 1st Round we drew a team from Indore, consisting of Major Howell and three native officers. Grenville-Grey was put *hors de combat* at the end of the

first chukker, with a hit in the face from a Polo stick, and Eden took his place.

After a very hard game we were beaten 4-3, all the younger players showing very good form, and Soames playing a steady game at back. This team beat the Staff 4-0 in the next round, and were defeated 6-1 in the Final by the 7th Hussars, who were much better mounted.

During this winter Yeats Brown and Ireland were unable to play in the Regimental team, which weakened it very considerably, but the two Barkers and Grenville-Grey should, with more experience, develop into Tournament players.

Good ponies are very expensive in India at the present moment, and this fact keeps several good players from competing for places in the team.

The Colonel plays regularly in good form, and Yeats Brown is invaluable in advising the younger players in the training of their ponies and in stable management.

Besides the other players mentioned above, we have Gott and Paine, who should develop into Polo players in the near future.

SHIKAR

The most important events of the year from the Shikar point of view have been the following trips:—

(1.) To Burma, April, May and June. Lieut. H. W. Nugent-Head, M.C., and Lieut. J. P. Domville.

(2.) To Baltistan and Ladakh. Captain W. H. E. Gott, M.C.

(3.) To Central Provinces, Jungle. C.-S.-M. Buchanan, Sergt.-Bugler Gilmore, C.-Q.-M.-S. Ferry, Sergt. Brownrigg, M.M., and Corpl. Curtis.

Short accounts of these expeditions and an extract from the Game Book for the year 1921 are given here.

BURMA, APRIL—JULY.

On arrival at Rangoon, we made straight for Pade, near Prome, where in 1918 a brother officer had shot a record thamin. But though we searched the Jungle for three whole days we saw nothing, the reason being that

the thugyis (headmen) of the villages had in the last few years been given gun-licences, and the thamin had doubtless moved to some place where they would be less molested.

As our final destination was Katha, we decided to go back to Rangoon, and start off thither, stopping on the way if we heard of any place where there were still thamin to be had. In Mandalay we got the required information, and stayed three days at Paukan, in the Shwebo district. Here there were plenty of thamin, but all small heads, so, after we had secured the only shootable heads we could find, we went on to Katha. Here we met with every possible assistance from both the Deputy Commissioner and the Forest Officer, and after two days, spent in making all arrangements for supplies and licences, we set off up the Irrawaddy, to the Kawkwey Chaung, a small tributary about forty miles up stream.

Here there was game in plenty, but the difficulty was, that though we saw any amount of bison and saing, they were nearly always in herds. In that dense jungle a herd is very difficult to manœuvre, for while one is looking for a bull, some cow gives a bellow, and away goes the lot. P—, however, managed to get a bison and a saing, both of which were solitary, and good heads.

We had been warned that this district was one of the most unhealthy in Burma, and we had not been there for more than ten days when P— produced a temperature of 106, which necessitated returning to Katha, where I immediately followed suit, and got the fever. We were both lucky, however, in only having light attacks, and were back in the jungle in nine days. We did not, however, go back to the same place. While we were in Katham we heard that down stream, in a system of islands, there were several very big tuskers, so we accordingly made for there. We took up our quarters in a village, Kyigan-daung, about fifty miles down stream, on one of the islands. There were plenty of elephants about, including a herd of about sixty, living mostly in the islands, and swimming from one to the other at night. The islands were to a large extent flooded, almost devoid of trees, and completely covered with dense kaing grass, about fourteen feet high, and utterly impenetrable to man, save down the narrow

passages made by the elephants. We used to set out about four in the morning, and search the sandy shores of the islands, from crazy little dug-out canoes, for fresh tracks. It is apparently the custom of elephants to go to the shore to drink about an hour before dawn, so one stands a good chance of picking up really fresh tracks in this way. As soon as the tracks leave the shore they plunge into the dense grass, leaving only a narrow passage with impenetrable walls. Authorities condemn this cover as compared to tree jungle, since the psychological moment may arrive when the quarry turns, and then has to be shot, irrespective of the size of his tusks. But it certainly has the recommendation of being very exciting. The best tusks were 75 lbs., belonging to a proclaimed rogue that P— shot.

The Burman is about as good a fellow as is to be found in this world. Though he, like many more, objects to work in general, he has at any rate the strength of mind to do none, save when he fancies, and then he works with a will. He is also a good sportsman, with a great sense of humour; but perhaps his best recommendation is his utter disregard for money. Never once did we hear the word "baksheesh" mentioned, and our hunters required no pay. They thanked us profusely for what we gave them when we left, and then, doubtless, went and spent it, either in charity, or on their wardrobe, of which every Burman is inordinately proud.

Our total bag was:—

8 Thamin.	1 Saing.
1 Bison.	4 Elephants.

Space forbids enlarging on the glories of Burma, but to anyone desirous of knowing more, my advice is to go there and see for himself. He will never regret it.

TRIP TO BALTISTAN AND LADAKH

On the fifteenth day after I had left Mhow I reached my nullah in Baltistan and the following morning set out on my first attempt at ibex shooting. The party consisted of my shikar Kadra Malik, the chota shikari, the tiffin coolie and the local shikari—a very garrulous little Balti.

When we started to climb it was cold, but after about two and a half hours of it I was as hot as I ever wanted to be, although I had shed my scarf, cardigan and coat in turn, and added them to the unfortunate tiffin coolie's load. We were now up amongst the snow and my shikari pointed out an ibex about 1200 yards away, and said there were several others with him. We decided to wait until the afternoon, when they were expected to come down to graze beneath us, but at about noon Kadra Malik announced that they had moved off, and so we started in pursuit over the most disagreeable precipices I had ever seen. When we got about half way Kadra Malik insisted on us all leaving our khud sticks, as these made too much noise—much to my consternation, as mine seemed to be my one hope of salvation. The last five minutes were across a steep slope covered with loose stones which I negotiated fairly successfully with some assistance from Kadra Malik, and we then crawled up to the edge of a cliff. Below us and about 100 yards away were about twelve ibex sitting in the shade. Kadra Malik pointed out the two biggest, and then I pushed my rifle cautiously over the edge, only to find that to get a shot I must lean right over with Kadra Malik holding on to my legs. I knocked over the biggest, and there were at once loud shouts of "Shah Bah" and a violent bang on the back, with further shouts from the retinue, who were now all looking over, to shoot another. I did so—again loud cheers, and Kadra Malik in great excitement pulled me down about 50 feet of khud to have a shot at a third, but this proved to be too small. We climbed back to the cliff edge again, only to find that all the ibex had disappeared, including the "two dead ones." We descended to the place they had been on, but beyond some blood there were no signs of our two wounded ones. I was awfully annoyed that I had not made certain of the first instead of shooting at another and going after a third, and finally getting none.

There were now no signs of the ibex, and as it was getting late and we were a long way from camp we came down about 2000 feet and made our way to the bottom end of the nullah. The shikaris were confident that we should find both, and for the next two days we all searched in

different directions but without success. On the third day, however, cheals located one for us though they ruined the headskin, but the other was unfortunately lost for good. In the course of the next week we had better luck, securing two more ibex and two sharpu. We then set out for the Barasingh country, where I got a small 10-pointer stag and a black bear near the Gilgit Road, reaching Srinagar at the end of September, after a very enjoyable two months leave, during which I got so heartily sick of my own society that on reaching Mhow in the middle of the night I let off steam to an extent that was not much appreciated at that hour by the other inmates of my bungalow.

A SHORT ACCOUNT OF A SHOOTING TRIP TO THE CENTRAL PROVINCES

By C.-S.-M. BUCHANAN.

The party being fixed, the permits (two blocks—(1) Stroncha, (2) Jimalgutta) obtained, stores bought, we were all ready to start on November 19th, 1921.

The party, consisting of myself, C.-Q.-M.-S. Ferry, Sergt.-Bugler Gilmore, Sergt. Brownrigg, and Corpl. Curtis, left Mhow at 9 p.m. on November 19th, arriving at Balharshah (the end of our railway journey) at 8 p.m. on the 21st.

Having successfully arranged the bullock transport for our kit and grub, we started off at 6.30 p.m. on November 21st to march to our first block, the Stroncha Block, a distance of 118 miles. The road was a very pleasant surprise to us, it being an excellent first-class metalled road the whole journey.

KOTARI.

I won't dwell on each day's journey, as we had no shooting on the way out.

We marched roughly about twenty-three miles per day, doing the whole distance in about five and a half to six days. Arrived at Stroncha, we got in touch with the Forest Guard and decided to push on the next day to a place called Thumnur, where we hoped to get chital or sambar; we

drew a blank, however, as far as chital or sambar were concerned, though plenty of female chital were seen, the only bag in the five days we remained at Thumnur being a wild goat and a small crocodile, both falling to Sergt.-Bugler Gilmore's rifle. The goat was very welcome to our larder, being the first bit of fresh meat we had had since leaving the railway.

We then decided to leave Thumnur and push back to our second block, Jimalgutta. We had decided to move for two reasons, firstly, because C.-Q.-M.-S. Ferry and Sergt. Brownrigg had arranged to be back in Mhow by about December 18th, and secondly, because we thought we might get bear in the Jimalgutta Block.

On December 2nd we set off to march to Aheri, about sixty miles away (towards home), where we would get the Forest Guard to take us to the Jimalgutta Block.

On our way back to Aheri we got to a place called Umanoor at 8.10 a.m. on the 4th December, and stopped to get milk from the village, and, while waiting for the milk, a native employed by the Public Works Department informed us that there were a lot of tiger in the vicinity, and we would be sure to get tiger if we stayed, so after talking it over for a bit we decided to stop for a few days.

When our transport arrived we pitched our tent close to one of the Public Works bungalows and sent off to the village to arrange for buffaloes to be tied up as bait for tigers. At about 8 p.m. Sergt.-Bugler Gilmore and Corpl. Curtis went off and selected a place for their buffaloes to be tied up and on their return to camp Sergt. Brownrigg and myself went out to select our place.

Soon after leaving camp we were met by a couple of villagers, who informed us that a tiger had just killed a cow from off one of the village herds; so Brownrigg and I went off with them at once, and after seeing the kill Brownrigg went off back to camp, a distance of four furlongs, to get rifles, etc., while I remained to supervise the erecting of machaans (a machaan is a platform erected in a suitable tree where one can sit up in the platform and get a good view of the kill, so that, when the tiger comes back to feed on the kill, one gets a reasonable chance of a shot, and one is fairly safe if "stripes" gets angry).



C.-S.-M. I.-M. A. BUCHANAN AND HIS TIGER.

All being ready and Brownrigg having come back with the rifles, we went and got into our machaans, Brownrigg with a .375 Mauser and I with a .375 rifle (single-loading) and a .300-bore magazine rifle.

It was about 5.30 p.m. when we got into the machaans and at about 6.45 or 7 p.m. I heard quite a lot of noise in the jungle close by and presently out came Mr. Stripes. I waited till he got to the kill, and having previously fixed up my foresight with a little chewing gum and silver paper from a cigarette packet, I took careful aim just behind the shoulder and had the satisfaction of seeing Mr. Stripes drop in his tracks, making sufficient noise to assure me that he was pretty badly hit. Up to this time Sergt. Brownrigg did not know what had happened, as he had not seen the tiger. However, hearing the row that Mr. Stripes was making, he (Sergt. Brownrigg) let drive at the kill, with a view to supporting my shot, and was fortunate to hit the tiger in the hind-quarters; this shot certainly made the tiger jump, for, after giving vent to some absolutely terrifying noises, he bounded away into the jungle near by, and from the subsequent sounds we both concluded that he was just about done for. After waiting about ten minutes we got down and returned to camp, and after having dinner we were advised to go out and try and find the tiger, or the jackals would ruin the skin. This we eventually did, after making torches and collecting about thirty coolies from the village, and, on arriving where I had seen the tiger disappear, we found him lying dead, a magnificent beast, being, I believe, a record for the Central Provinces, measuring 9ft. 10½in. between pegs and splendidly marked.

We managed to get him safely back to camp, where we all indulged in a fairly Bara Peg before turning in. Nothing exciting happened till next evening, when news of another kill was brought in, and Ferry and Brownrigg went off and spent the night in machaans but drew a blank.

The next afternoon Gilmore and Curtis went off to sit up over live bait. Curtis had only been gone from camp about an hour and a half when we heard a shot. Those of us that were in camp thought that he had come across a chital stag, and, on hearing a second shot, Brownrigg

suggested that we should go out to see what had happened. So Brownrigg and I picked up our rifles and started off, and having gone about 200 yards we met some coolies who told us that the Sahib had got a tiger, and on finding Curtis we saw it was quite true, the tiger having come right under the machaan; he got a very easy shot, killing it instantly, but gave it a second shot to make sure, both shots being in the brain. It was a very good beast, measuring 8ft. 11in.

On getting back to camp we got news of another kill, and as none of those in camp wanted to go out again for an all-night stay we sent out to Gilmore, and he decided he would go out.

He was very unlucky. The tiger came back into the kill, but the light being bad he fired two shots and missed. The tiger left the kill, but returned again about two hours after; Gilmore had another shot, but missed again. At this time the moon was only just rising and gave very little light. Gilmore was compelled to remain all night in his machaan, as the tiger remained close by the kill all night, growling, but did not offer himself for another shot. In the meantime the bait that Gilmore had been sitting over was taken by a tiger, about an hour after Gilmore left it.

Ferry and Brownrigg, on hearing that Gilmore's bait had been taken, went out, but drew a blank. At this stage we suddenly discovered that our flour and sugar rations were so short that we had to pack up for home, as we were unable to renew anything in the way of supplies; so we decided to strike our camp and return to Mhow.

We had a very nice march back to the railway, and after a very pleasant and exciting trip we arrived at Mhow on December 15th, 1921, the total bag of the party being: C.-S.-M. Buchanan, 1 tiger, 9ft. 10½in. between pegs; Corpl. Curtis, 1 tiger, 8ft. 11in. between pegs; Sergt.-Bugler Gilmore 1 wild goat, 1 crocodile, 1 chital stag.

I omitted to state that on December 5th Sergt.-Bugler Gilmore succeeded in getting a fairly good chital.

The trip was fairly cheap, costing about Rupees 175 each, or £11. 10s. each. We marched in all twenty days, about 450 miles.

Total for Second Year, Nov. 2nd, 1920—Nov. 1st, 1921**BIG GAME.**

Elephants	4	Nilgai	4
Thamin	3	Hyena	2
Bison	1	Red Dog	1
Tsine	1	Wild Cat	2
Ibex	3	Swamp Deer	3
Shapu	2	Sambur	1
Kashmir Stag	1	Muggar	1
Bear	3	Four-Horned Antelope	1
Black Buck	36		
Chinkara	14	Total ...	88

SMALL GAME.

Teal	252	Sand Grouse	337
Snipe	359	Peafowl	6
Duck	609	Curlew	3
Partridges	215	Painted Snipe	4
Hares	64	Norfolk Plover	2
Quail	157	Green Plover	1
Pigeons	90		
Green Pigeons	4	Total ...	2103

FISH.

Mahsur	11
Maral	11
Boali	4

Total ... 26
Grand Total 2212

HAWKS.

Common Heron	4	Teal	5
Green White Heron	9	Spotted Bill	1
Little White Heron	8	Stilt	1
Smaller White Heron	1	Red-Wattled Lapwing	9
Cattle Egret	3	Stone Curlew	1
Purple Heron	4	Grey Partridges	2
Pond Heron	1	Hares	6
Open-Bill Stork	2	Crows	6
Spoon-Bill	3	Roller	1
Shoveller	1	Small Birds	350
Crow Pheasant	1		
Common Pochard	1	Total ...	420

BOXING

The first event of importance in 1921 was the Southern Command Tournament at Poona at the end of February. This was for teams of eight, *i.e.*, one in each weight, from

Battalions and equivalent units. The Battalion sent the following team :—

<i>Heavies.</i> —Boyd.	<i>Lights.</i> —L.-Corpl. Williams.
<i>Light-Heavies.</i> —Brown.	<i>Feathers.</i> —L.-Corpl. Smith.
<i>Middles.</i> —Lea.	<i>Bantams.</i> —Sergt. McCarthy.
<i>Welters.</i> —L.-Corpl. Wilkinson.	<i>Fly.</i> —L.-Corpl. Burge.

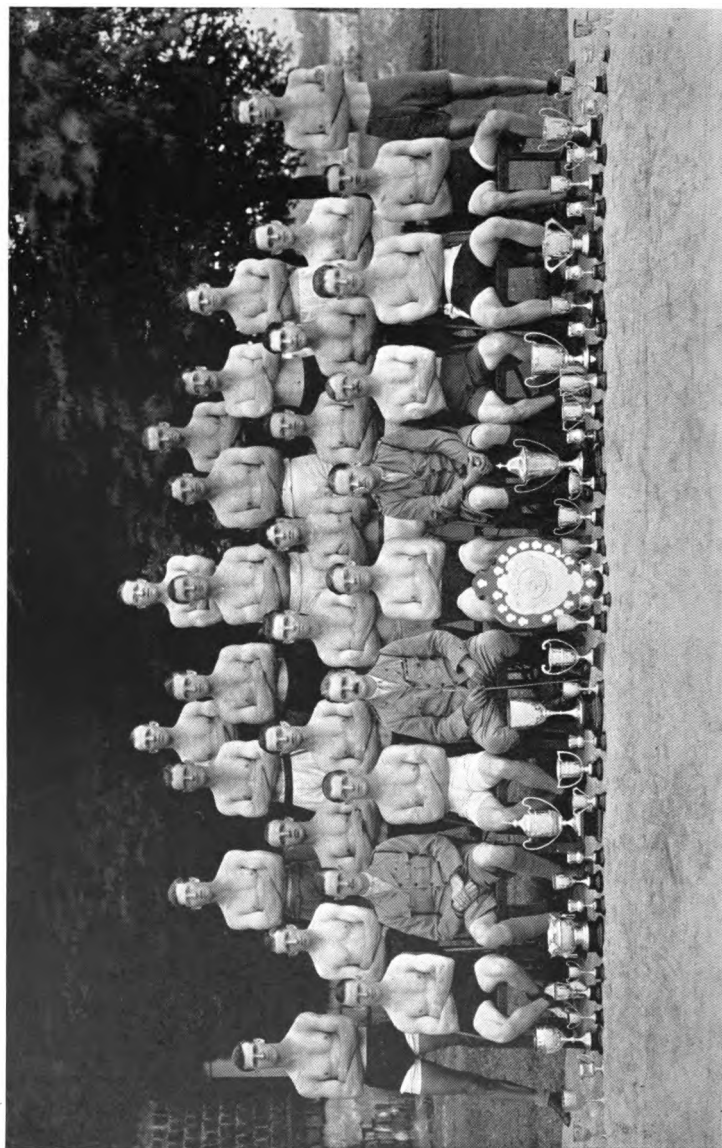
We were successful in winning the Trophy, but only by a comparatively small margin, the runners-up being the 2nd Battalion the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment. A large proportion of our team reached the Semi-finals, but L.-Corpl. Wilkinson was the only one to win his weight. L.-Corpls. Williams, Smith and Burge, who had been expected to do very well, were rather disappointing, seeming to be a bit stale.

In March we got up a Competition in Mhow, the primary object being to raise funds for the Boxing Club. This was open to the Station, but the entries from other units were rather poor, and a large number scratched at the last minute, so that it practically degenerated into a Regimental show. However, the show was a great success, the fighting was excellent throughout and a large sum of money was taken at the gate. The winners of the different weights were :—

<i>Heavies.</i> —Rfn. Boyd.	<i>Lights.</i> —Shoeing-Smith Blake,
<i>Middles.</i> —Corpl. Nash.	7th Hussars.
<i>Welters.</i> —L.-Corpl. Adlington.	<i>Feathers.</i> —Rfn. Whittaker.
<i>Fly.</i> —Bugler Hands.	<i>Bantams.</i> —Rfn. Darling.

L.-Corpls. Wilkinson, Williams, Smith and Burge and Sergt. McCarthy stood out, as being too good and likely to spoil the show, and the contests were arranged for all of them, except Wilkinson, the principal opponents being men of the Suffolk Regiment from Jubbulpore. These contests were all excellent, and no doubt the names of the champions attracted people to the show who might otherwise have stayed away.

At the end of April L.-Corpls. Williams, Smith and Adlington and Riflemen Limmer, Hands and Eyles went to Jubbulpore to fight at the Suffolks' Regimental Tournament. Williams and Eyles entered for the Light-Weight Competition, open to the Central Provinces District, which Williams won, Eyles having to retire in the Semi-finals owing to a damaged hand. The other men fought contests which they all won. A very good effort.



3RD BATTALION BOXING TEAM.
Mussoorie Tournament, 1921.

The Novices' Tournament was held at the end of July, by way of preparation for the Mussoorie Tournament in September, and provided three nights of very good boxing. The competition for the Novices' Cup was very keen, A Company winning rather unexpectedly by the narrow margin of 2 points. The points were as follows: A Company, 87; C Company, 85; D Company, 88; B Company, 8. Besides the Novices' Competition there were six contests, two of the South Wales Borderers came up from Jhansi to fight L.-Corpl. Excell and Bugler Hands. Excell was narrowly beaten on points after the full six rounds. Hands disposed of his man in the second round with a beautiful knock-out. Sergt.-Bugler Gilmore's two boys fought boys from the 7th Hussars. The eldest won his fight and the youngest won two fights, being challenged by another boy of the 7th Hussars on the Final night.

The fight of the Tournament was between L.-Corpl. Wilkinson and L.-Corpl. Tollervey, who had joined the Battalion with a draft in the spring. Tollervey put up a very good fight, but was knocked out in the fourth round.

The arrangements for the three nights were very well made and the attendance very good. Colonel Warre gave away the prizes.

At the end of August a team of thirty men proceeded to Mussoorie to represent the Battalion at the Mussoorie Boxing Tournament, which was open to any member of His Majesty's Naval and Military Forces. About thirty-four units entered teams, only four units, however, entering thirty competitors. The team consisted of:—

Heavies.—Rifleman Boyd.

Middles.—Rifleman Lea, Bugler Mansfield.

Welters.—L.-Corpls. Wilkinson, Adlington, Tollervey, Gilbert, and Rifleman Limmer.

Lights.—Corpl. Barber, L.-Corpls. Williams and O'Dell, Riflemen Eyles, Harris, Greenwood, Cook, and Young.

Feathers.—Corpl. Simmons, L.-Corpls. Carter and Smith, Riflemen Honeywood, Greatorex, Ayling, and Skidmore.

Bantams.—Sergt. McCarthy, Riflemen Darling and Da Silva.

Fly.—L.-Corpls. Burge and Excell, Riflemen Barker, Bugler Hands.

From the start it was obviously going to be a close fight between the Royal Irish Regiment, the Black Watch, the Royal Welch Fusiliers and ourselves. After about the third or fourth day's fighting the Royal Irish took the

lead and never lost it. We took second place, only just defeating the Black Watch. We were very unlucky in the draws, Rifleman Limmer and Corpl. Barber both drawing the ultimate winners in the first round, and Rifleman Lea and Bugler Mansfield, our only entries for the middle-weights, drawing each other in the first round. L.-Corpl. Smith had to scratch before fighting at all owing to tonsillitis, and Bugler Hands had to scratch, after winning his first fight, owing to an abscess forming under his teeth, which was unfortunate, as he would undoubtedly have won several more fights. L.-Corpl. Burge, last year's winner (Fly-Weight) at Mussoorie Tournament, drew L.-Corpl. Bates, Royal Welch Fusiliers (in the first round) who had previously beaten him at Poona. Burge did not show anything like his usual form until the third round of the fight, when it was too late, and so lost on points.

Rifleman Eyles and L.-Corpl. Williams were both beaten by L.-Corpl. Harrison, Black Watch, who was last year's winner of the Welter-Weights at the Mussoorie Tournament, and this year won the Light-Weights. Williams met Harrison in the Semi-finals and was only just beaten on points after a very hard-fought three rounds. L.-Corpls. Wilkinson and Adlington both reached the Final of the Welter-Weights, Adlington's hardest fight being with Pte. Moody, Royal West Kent Regiment, who was backed by many to reach the Finals. Adlington fought "all out" through three gruelling rounds, and won his fight through sheer perseverance. Wilkinson only had one hard fight, which was in the Semi-final against Sergt. Gardner, Cameron Highlanders. All three rounds consisted of in fighting, and was the only fight Wilkinson had to go all three rounds. Sergt. Gardner eventually won the best loser's prize. L.-Corpl. Gilbert and Rifleman Honeywood, both young boxers, were perhaps the most improved boxers in our team, both winning three or four very good fights. Sergt. McCarthy, as usual, carried out the duties of trainer, and the manner in which our team lasted through the ten days' fighting shows how splendidly he did his work. He also fought in the Bantams, winning his first fight, and, as usual, gaining his half point for a good loser against a much younger opponent. Riflemen Foxton and Flint accompanied the

team as masseurs and worked very hard, being largely responsible for the fitness of the team.

During September the Battalion sent a team of eight, and eight individuals down to the Southern Command Boxing Tournament at Poona to compete for the privilege of representing the Southern Command in the All India Boxing Championship, at Meerut.

The Battalion had bad luck in the draw, in that L.-Corpl. Williams and Rifleman Eyles drew each other in the first round of the Light-Weights and in winning the fight L.-Corpl. Williams damaged his hand and took no further part in the Tournament. One of these two would have undoubtedly gone all the way in his weight.

The following reached the Semi-final Round:—

Sergt. McCarthy.

Rifleman Limmer.

Corpl. Nash.

Lea.

Bugler Hands.

L.-Corpl. Wilkinson.

Rifleman Honeywood.

Sergt. McCarthy had bad luck in having the decision given against him, as he had the better of the first two rounds and seemed to hold his opponent well in the last.

Rifleman Lea won a hard fight on points against Sergt. Cox, Beds. and Herts.

Rifleman Honeywood had much the best of his bout and won easily on points.

Rifleman Hands, boxing against Corpl. Simmonds of 7th Hussars, held his man well in the first two rounds and proceeded to put him down for the count in the last.

Rifleman Limmer met Sergt. Massey of the Beds and Herts, and after a fight in which Limmer seemed all over a winner Massey got the verdict on points.

Corpl. Nash knocked his opponent out in the first round, a feat which L.-Corpl. Wilkinson copied in the next fight.

At this point the team was running third, $2\frac{1}{2}$ points behind the Beds. and Herts and Green Howards.

In the Finals Rifleman Hands won the Fly-Weights in an excellent fight, Hands boxing very cleverly.

Two representatives of the Battalion fought in the Final of the Middle-Weights and Corpl. Nash was all over Rifleman Lea and knocked him out in the second round. L.-Corpl. Wilkinson again won the Welter-Weight with a K.O. in thirty-five seconds.

Honeywood fought really well to win the Feather-Weights, and is to be congratulated on doing so well in his first big Competition.

The team were extraordinarily unlucky not to win, as they must have done had not the referee decided after Nash had knocked out Lea in the second round that it was no fight and that no points would be awarded. The team thus lost by $1\frac{1}{2}$ points, which was very disheartening after the way in which every member of the team fought.

Owing to our defeat by the Bedfords at Poona, we were unfortunately not allowed to enter a team for the All India Boxing at Meerut in February. However, the Southern Command decided to have eight of our men to represent them in the individual boxing at the same Tournament, no other Regiment having more than two or three selections, so we ought to be able to keep up our reputation. We are again lucky in losing only two or three boxers this year with the short-service men; the greatest loss will be Bugler Hands, whom we shall miss very much. He has improved enormously during the last year and is now a first-class Fly-Weight. He was selected by the Southern Command as their first choice for the Fly-Weights at Meerut and would undoubtedly have done very well if he had been able to go.

FOOTBALL AND HOCKEY

It has been very difficult this year to keep a satisfactory record, as nobody has been with the Battalion continuously enough to report all the matches. It is extraordinarily difficult to write accounts from hearsay evidence of matches which one has not seen.

The Battalion Football Team is going on satisfactorily, but it was rather disorganised by the loss of some of its most prominent players among the two-year men.

We are losing some more good footballers with the three-year men, but we hope that, as the proportion of long-service men gets greater, the team will settle down and give a really good account of itself in the Army Tournament next year. We succeeded in winning the Divisional Tournament this year, which was not too bad for a start.

The Battalion Hockey Team was only started this year and has made a good beginning. They were unfortunate in having the 7th Hussars in the same Station. The 7th have a particularly strong team, composed entirely of pre-war players. They won the Southern Command Tournament and should do well in the Army Hockey at Meerut.

The following is a summary of the most important Tournaments this year and a short account of the preliminary rounds of the Army Football and Hockey.

INTER-PLATOON TOURNAMENT.

This was played early in the year, just after the two-year men had gone away and before the arrival of the draft. The Battalion was so weak, therefore, that the Tournament had to be played by half Companies. This was a pity, but it produced some very good matches.

Semi-Finals.

5 and 6 beat 9 and 10, 5-9.

1 and 2 beat 3 and 4, 1-0.

Final.

5 and 6 beat 1 and 2, 2-0.

GARRISON TOURNAMENT.

Semi-Finals.

B Company beat Mhow Staff Club, 3-1.

A Company beat 100th Battery, R.F.A., 1-0.

Final.

B Company beat A Company, 2-1.

The All-India Football and Hockey Tournaments are this year being played off by Commands and Districts. The only teams to enter at Mhow were the 7th (Q.O.) Hussars and ourselves, both for football and hockey.

The football match took place on October 8th. The following represented the Battalion:—

Corpl. Allison (C), goal; L.-Corpl. Skinner (B) and Corpl. Proos (B), backs; Rfn. Cooper (B), Rfn. Murray (B), and Corpl. Ballam (A), half-backs; Rfn. Johnson (B), Rfn. Holmes (B), Rfn. Wise (C), Rfn. Merrin (A), and Rfn. Geary (B), forwards.

The Battalion won fairly easily by 3 goals to 1. Corpl. Allison, our goalkeeper, was only troubled three times, one of which was a penalty goal, a good hard shot along the ground in the corner. Our defence, as usual, was much better than the forwards. Rifleman Merrin appeared to be the best in the forward line.

The hockey match took place on Saturday, October 15th. The following represented the Battalion:—

Rfn. Wright, goal; Lieut. De Salis and Rfn. Morris, backs; Corpl. Ashby, Sergt. Smith, Sergt. Lancaster, half-backs; Bugler Vaughan, Delaney, Worthington, Capt. Eden, and Goodwin, forwards.

A very good game, the 7th Hussars winning by 4-1. The Battalion scored the first goal, the 7th equalising just before half-time.

The second half the 7th got much better together, and scored three more goals. Our opponents were a much better team, having practically a pre-war team.

The second round of the All-India Football Tournament commenced on October 20th. The three teams competing to represent the Central Provinces District were the 2nd Battalion the Manchester Regiment (Kamptee), the 26th Brigade R.F.A. (Jhansi), and the 3rd Battalion K.R.R.C. (Mhow). A triangular Tournament was arranged, 2 points being for a win and 1 for a draw. The first match was between the Gunners and the Manchester Regiment. A slow game took place, neither side being able to get used to the strange ground. The Manchesters won, 3-1.

October 21st. We met the Manchester Regiment. The following represented the Battalion:—

Corpl. Allison, goal; L.-Corpl. Skinner and Sergt. Proos, backs; Rfn. Cooper, Rfn. Murray, and Corpl. Ballam, half-backs; Rfn. Johnson, Rfn. Holmes, Rfn. Wise, Rfn. Merrin, and Rfn. Geary, forwards.

The Battalion did not play anything like as well as in their previous match. As usual, the backs and halves played well, and the goalkeeper (Corpl. Allison) especially well. The Battalion obtained the first goal, which was scored mainly through a good run by Wise, followed by a neat pass to the outside left, who centred well, the goal being actually scored by Rifleman Holmes. Soon afterwards a penalty kick was awarded our opponents against Sergt. Proos, who handled the ball in the penalty area: the result was a shot outside the posts.

On starting after half-time, the Manchesters pressed hard and scored, through some excellent passing by the forwards. Play then became more interesting with the score 1-1. Corpl. Allison saved two good shots at goal, one low down against the upright. About five minutes before time our team seemed to wake up, and kept the ball in their opponents' half. About a minute before time, through some good passing, finishing up with a scrimmage in front of goal, Rifleman Merrin found the net. Almost immediately after restarting the whistle blew for time, thus leaving us the winners by 2-1.

Allison, Skinner, Murray, and Ballam played best for the Battalion.

BATTALION SPORTS

January 20th, 1921.

These were to have been held on the 8th and had been twice postponed for various reasons. On the 19th there was heavy rain, but fortunately the morning of the 20th was fine and the Square had just dried sufficiently to be perfect for running on.

There was a great struggle for the Company Shield between A and C Companies, the result being in doubt up to the last minute. A Company started the afternoon with 5 points to C Company's 1 for the Cross-Country Run, which was held last August. C Company soon made up this deficit and the two Companies were about level till near the end of the programme.

A Company's win in the Tug-of-War, the last event but two, practically settled matters, and the collapse of Roberts, C Company's star sprinter, in the quarter, decided it. A Company finished up a successful afternoon by getting the first four places in the Three-Miles. Results:—

COMPANY SHIELD.

A Company, 31 points. C Company, 20 points. D Company, 6 points.

B Company were unable to compete owing to the expense of sending a team in from Neemuch, where they were on detachment.

100 Yards.—1, L.-Corpl. Roberts, C Coy., time $11\frac{1}{2}$ secs.; 2, Corpl. Ashby, A Coy.; 3, Rfn. Delaney, C Coy.

220 Yards.—1, L.-Corpl. Roberts, C Coy., time $26\frac{1}{2}$ secs.; 2, Corpl. Ashby, A Coy.; 3, Rfn. Ginnaw, C Coy.

440 Yards.—1, L.-Corpl. Waldron, D Coy., time $58\frac{3}{4}$ secs.; 2, Corpl. Ballam, A Coy.; 3, Rfn. Ginnaw, C Coy.

L.-Corpl. Roberts, last year's winner, started in great style and ran well for three-quarters of the distance, when he collapsed, having run himself right out. He had earlier in the afternoon run a very good quarter for his Company in the Relay Race.

Corpl. Ashby, who was expected to do well, was unable to run, having run himself out in the Relay Race.

Half-Mile.—1, 2nd Lieut. Robertson, I. U. L., A Coy., time 2 mins. $5\frac{3}{4}$ secs.; 2, Corpl. Sands, C Coy.; 3, Corpl. Ballam, A Coy.

One Mile.—1, Rfn. Le Luyer, A Coy, time 4 mins. 56 secs.; 2, Rfn. Felgate, A Coy.; 3, L.-Corpl. Waldron, D Coy.

Three Miles.—1, Rfn. Le Luyer, A Coy.; 2, Rfn. Felgate, A Coy.; 3, Rfn. Jones, A Coy.

By a misunderstanding, the time was not taken, which was a pity, as it must have been good. Le Luyer had an easy win, and looked fresh enough to do another three miles.

One Mile (open).—1, Rfn. Martin; 2, Sergt. Grimwood; 3, Rfn. Barksworth.

As things turned out, this was somewhat in the nature of a Consolation Race. There had been several entries from the 7th Hussars and the 107th Battery, R.F.A., but none of them turned up.

Tug of War.—1, A Company; 2, C Company; 3, D Company.

A Company were distinctly the best trained team, and won fairly easily, never requiring a third pull.

Relay Race.—1, C Company, time 4 mins. 5 secs.; 2, A Company; 3, D Company.

This consisted of two 220's, one 440, and one half-mile, and produced a very fine race. C Company established a good lead in the 220's and the quarter, and Corpl. Sands started the half with about 15 yards start of 2nd Lieut. Robertson, who had beaten him fairly comfortably earlier in the afternoon. Robertson made a very fine race of it, coming up well at the finish, but was beaten by about a yard.

Marching Order Relay Race (four 440's).—1, C Company; 2, A Company (disqualified).

A Company had the lead for the first three quarters, but Brown ran a magnificent race for C Company in the last quarter, winning on the post. A Company were disqualified and so lost their points for second place, because their third man ran inside one of the flags.

Old Soldiers' Race (100 Yards Handicap. 1 yard for every year over 18 years service).—1, Colonel Majendie; 2, C.-Q.-M.-S. Wood; 3, Rfn. Benson.

This was the best of the afternoon, the first three being all in a bunch.

January 28rd.

The Sports terminated with a football match *v.* 7th Hussars on their ground. We won, 1—0, after a very good game. The Battalion team had distinctly the best of it and played well together, the passing being much better than usual.

CROSS-COUNTRY RUN

August 17th. The Battalion Cross-Country Run was held on August 17th, a distance of five miles or slightly more, and was won in the excellent time of 30 mins. 4 secs. by Lieut. C. B. Lee Steere, who beat the favourite, Rifleman Le Luyer, of A Company, by about thirty yards. Numbers were unlimited, but only eight per Company counted in the team event. Points were given according to where a man came in (a man coming in tenth scored 10 points), the Company scoring least points winning. A Company

won fairly easily with 69 points; C Company, second, with 127 points; H.Q. Company, third, with 211 points, followed by D and B.

Lady Shea kindly presented the prizes.

BOMBAY Y.M.C.A. SPORTS MEETING

This Meeting is held yearly at the Oval, Bombay, and is open to the whole of India, both military and civilian.

Last year we only sent in two entries, Riflemen Le Luyer and Jones, both for the Marathon, in which they finished second and third respectively.

This year, in spite of collective training being impossible, owing to two Companies being in camp, we managed to collect a team of 14 to compete in the following events:— 100 Yards Handicap, 100 Yards Scratch, 220 Yards, 440 Yards, 880 Yards, One-Mile, Marathon (10 miles), Hurdles, and Half-Mile Relay.

The Meeting was held on December 2nd and 3rd, five days after the two Companies returned from camp.

100 Yards (Handicap). Rifleman Greatham, with a start of nine yards, finished third.

100 Yards (Scratch). L.-Corpl. Roberts won both his heat and the Final without any difficulty. Time, $10\frac{3}{8}$ secs.

220 Yards. L.-Corpl. Roberts again won both his heat and the Final without any difficulty. Time, $23\frac{3}{8}$ secs.

440 Yards. Corpls. Waldron and Sands were drawn in the same heat and finished first and second respectively. In the Final Corpl. Sands was second and Waldron third.

880 Yards. Corpl. Sands won. In the first lap he just kept the lead, but in the second he drew out and won by a good margin. Time, 2 mins. 11 secs. Bdm. Fletton also ran a good race and finished third.

One-Mile. Rifleman Felgate took the lead at the start and maintained it throughout the Race, winning by a margin of about ten yards. Time, 4 mins. 58 secs.

Marathon. This is considered to be the biggest event of the whole Meeting. Le Luyer and Jones again competed. Le Luyer got off at a great pace, and before he left the track, which was the first part of the course, he had gained a lead of between three and four hundred yards. He now settled

down into his regular stride, with a short sprint every mile, and at times was reported to have been as much as half a mile ahead. At no time during the race was he pressed, and he finished with a sprint of 220 yards and a lead of a quarter of a mile. It was indeed a fine performance, and his staying powers must be absolutely phenomenal, for he was not in the least distressed. Time, 57 mins. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ secs. This was only 45 secs. slower than the winning time last year, though the course was two furlongs longer.

Owing to an accident, Rifleman Jones had spent the week previous in hospital, and only arrived in Bombay the day before he had to run. In spite of this misfortune he managed to finish fourth, for which he deserves great credit.

Hurales. Riflemen Morris and Fysh were second and third in the same heat and Rifleman Morris finished second in the Final, Fysh coming fourth. *Relay.* The team consisted of Riflemen Greatham, Delaney, Sergt. Ashby and L.-Corpl. Roberts. The course was four distances of 220 yards. Though we led all the way, we were beaten at the finish by a short head, as L.-Corpl. Roberts mistook a new post (just short of the winning post) for the winning post itself. The previous day in winning their heat our team put up a Record for Bombay.

In addition to five firsts, three seconds and three thirds, L.-Corpl. Roberts carried off the Individual Aggregate Cup, one of the best individual Cups in India, and both he and the rest of the team deserve great credit, especially as they had had but little opportunity for thorough training.

MUSKETRY

Results of Annual Musketry Course, A.R.A. and I.A. Competitions.

1921—1922.

1. The Companies started the annual Musketry Course in June, D Company being the first to fire. The course, as laid down by the Government of India, was different from the course being fired at home, and was generally considered much harder than the course fired by the Battalion in the previous year.

D Company was best shooting Company on the previous

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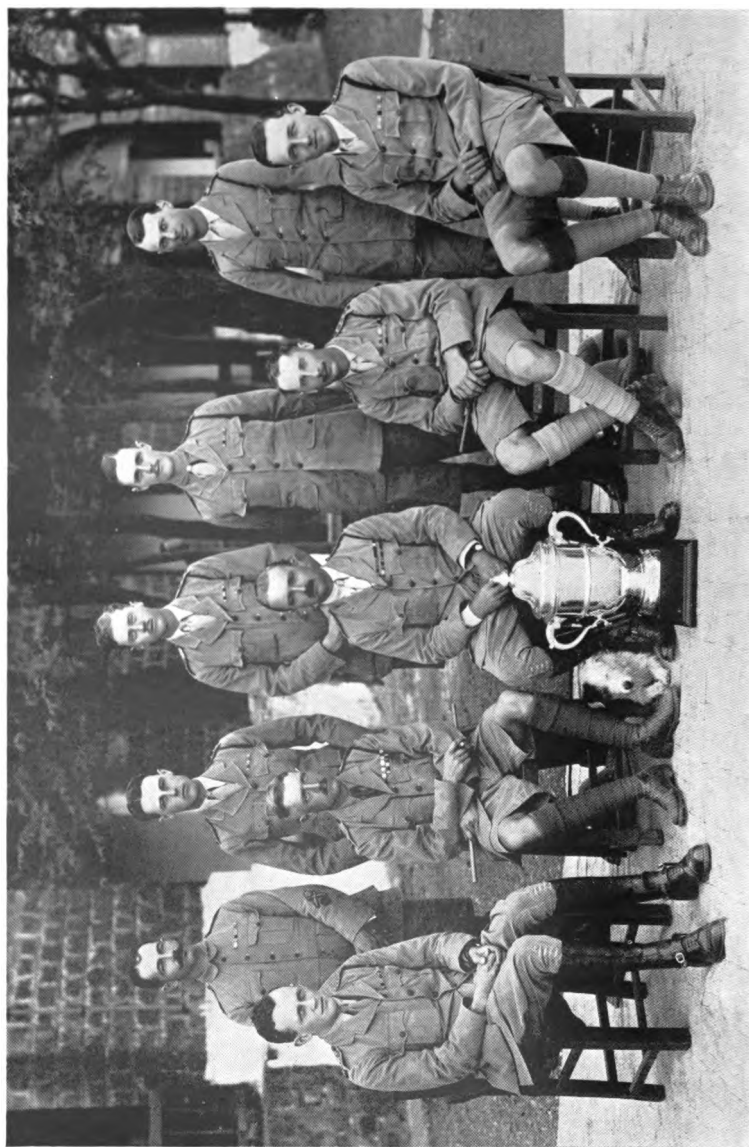
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3RD BATTALION.
KING GEORGE CUP TEAM. MHOW, 1922.



Back Row—C.S.M. I. M. A. Buchanan, Lieut. G. C. Ashburner, Lieut. J. H. Paine, Lieut. S. C. F. De Salis, Lieut. C. E. M. Grenville-Grey.
Front Row—Capt. and Adj. J. F. Hare, Major H. C. Ponsonby, Lt.-Col. R. J. Majendie, Capt. E. H. Barker, Capt. W. H. Gott,
Capt. of Team. D.S.O., M.C. D.S.O., M.C. D.S.O., M.C.

course and had great hopes of keeping the premier position, but they failed to do this, owing to having finished Part I and II, Table B, before orders were received to commence firing on the new-pattern targets, and not having had any practice on these targets. D Company found it none too easy and all through Part III they were troubled with very high winds and rain, in fact they were compelled to wait nearly three weeks to fire one practice. The weather was much better for the remaining Companies and they improved all round on the previous year's shooting,^t the final results being:—

	<i>Company Average.</i>	<i>Company Shot.</i>
A Company	— 104.2	Rfn. Drewry.
B "	— 100.4	" McGovern.
C "	— 98.2	" Hiscock.
D "	— 96.4	L.-Corpl. Reed.

Best Shots.

W.O.'s and Sergeants.—Sergt.-Bugler Gilmore.

Other Ranks.—Rfn. Drewry.

The following Competitions under the A.R.A. were entered for by the Battalion:—

INTER-COMPANY CUP.—Best Company in Battalion, C Company, 536.

HOPTON CUP (Inter-Platoon).—No. 8 Platoon, A Company, 394.

KING GEORGE CUP (team of 8 Officers).—Score, 370; Average, 46.2.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT CUP (Revolver).

BROOKE BOND CUP (Indian Army).—Score, 618; Average, 84.05.

The following represented the Battalion in:—

1. THE KING GEORGE CUP.

Major H. C. Ponsonby, D.S.O., M.C.

Captain E. H. Barker, D.S.O., M.C.

Captain and Adjutant J. F. Hare.

Captain W. H. E. Gott.

Lieut. G. C. Ashburner.

Lieut. J. H. Paine.

Lieut. S. C. F. De Salis.

Lieut. C. E. M. Grenville-Grey.

2. BROOKE BOND CUP.

Major H. C. Ponsonby, D.S.O., M.C.

Captain and Adjutant J. F. Hare.

Captain E. H. Barker, D.S.O., M.C.

Captain W. H. E. Gott, M.C.

Lieut. G. C. Ashburner.

Lieut. C. E. M. Grenville-Grey.

R.-S.-M. Thomason.	C.-Q.-M.-S. Collister.
C.-S.-M. Buchanan.	Sergt.-Bugler Gilmore.
C.-Q.-M.-S. Conson.	Sergt. Smith.
„ Wood.	„ Bell.
„ Robinson.	„ Morgan.
„ Ferry.	„ Pearce.

THE BATTALION WAS REPRESENTED IN THE INDIAN ARMY CHAMPIONSHIP FOR 1920-21 FOR THE GOLD, SILVER, AND BRONZE JEWELS BY C.-S.-M. BUCHANAN AND SERGT.-BUGLER GILMORE, WHO WERE SUCCESSFUL IN CARRYING OFF THE GOLD AND SILVER JEWELS WITH THE FOLLOWING SCORES:—

	Score.	H.P.	
SERG.-BUGLER GILMORE	92	- 100	WINNER OF GOLD JEWEL.
C.-S.-M. BUCHANAN	- 90	- 100	„ SILVER JEWEL.

THIS SUCCESS MANAGED TO MAKE A RECORD FOR THE REGIMENT, BY WINNING THE GOLD JEWEL AT HOME AND THE GOLD AND SILVER JEWELS ABROAD, AS LIEUT.-COLONEL SAUNDERS-KNOX-GORE WON THE GOLD JEWEL AT BISLEY.

The candidates for the Army Championship for 1921-22 are different from candidates for 1920-21, as the Battalion were able to enter nine representatives in three Classes to represent them. Those selected were:—

Class 1.—Captain Hare, Captain Gott, C.-Q.-M.-S. Collister, Sergt.-Bugler Gilmore.

Class 2.—L. C. Hewitt, Rifleman Drewry, Rifleman Hiscock, Rifleman Whitehead.

Class 3.—C.-S.-M. Buchanan.

The Competition was first to be fired off by Districts, and the best two in each Class would be selected to represent the Command at Meerut in the Army Championship, which would take place in February. There were only three units entered in the Central Provinces District, namely, 8rd K.R.R.C., South Wales Borderers and Manchester Regiment, and on the shoot-off the following were placed:—

Class 1.—Captain Hare and Captain Gott.

„ 2.—Rifleman Drewry.

„ 3.—C.-S.-M. Buchanan.

REGIMENTAL RECORDS

4th BATTALION THE KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS

The year has been exceedingly uneventful for the Battalion, and on looking back only seems to present vistas of training in one form or other from January to December. Lieut.-Colonel Sir Hereward Wake arrived from England at the end of February to command the Battalion. After an exceptionally mild, dry winter we settled down to musketry in March, and by the middle of April two Companies had fired the course. Two companies then went out for Company training to Hindubagh, a mud frontier post at the west end of the Zhob Valley, which is reached by a five days' march from Quetta. This march was, no doubt, excellent training, but it leads through some of the most dismal hills and valleys in Baluchistan, and no one was sorry to see the last of the road, or, for that matter, of Hindubagh itself, which was an unprepossessing spot summed up in one word—dust. After a fortnight's training there the two Companies came back to Quetta, and the other two went out in the middle of May for the same time.

June, July and August was spent in Quetta, more dusty than usual, for, owing to the dry winter, all the water supplies had failed. The time was spent between musketry and Battalion training, and in September a series of Rifle Meetings, at which all ranks acquitted themselves nobly.

Towards the end of September the Battalion marched out to camp at Kolpur—thirty miles from Quetta in the Bolan Pass—and here we did a short spell of Battalion Training, and then marched back again, being inspected by General Braithwaite, the G.O.C. Western Command, on the way in.

After this, the year went on uneventfully to the end.

On April 1st the Battalion was reorganized with a Headquarter Company and an Indian platoon of machine-gun drivers, though these did not arrive until the end of the year. The Headquarter Company, though a success in war, is undoubtedly nothing but a nuisance in peace and has no apparent advantages. The Indian platoon is a useful innovation and is interesting, as it must be the first time that natives, as soldiers, apart from followers, have formed part of the Regiment.

**NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS WHO HAVE BEEN WITH THE 4TH BATTALION
THE KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS DURING 1921.**

Name and Rank	Date of joining	Date off strength
Lieut.-Col. Sir H. Wake, Bart., C.M.G., D.S.O.	4/2/21	—
Major C. H. N. Seymour, D.S.O.	—	—
„ M. L. S. Clements	—	—
„ A. P. Evans, D.S.O.	—	30/11/21
„ G. M. Atkinson, D.S.O.	—	—
Capt. E. D. Shafto	—	—
„ G. S. Oxley, M.C.	—	—
„ M. L. Buller, M.C.	—	—
„ G. F. H. Hayhurst-France, D.S.O., M.C.	—	—
Capt. and Qmr. Mr. T. J. Jones, M.B.E.	—	—
Capt. and Adj. E. A. B. Miller, M.C.	—	—
Capt. R. E. F. G. North	29/10/21	—
Lieut. J. E. M. Skinner	—	—
„ E. W. Fane de Salis, M.C.	—	—
„ E. M. Allfrey, M.C.	29/10/21	—
„ Hon. J. C. C. Jervis, M.C.	—	—
„ A. C. Wright	—	—
„ J. N. Cheney	—	—
„ J. W. S. MacIure	—	—
„ R. Jacomb-Hood	—	—
„ R. G. Coulson	—	—
„ T. Fetherstonhaugh	—	—
„ O. St. G. P. Nugent	—	—
„ G. E. R. C. Osborne	—	—
2nd Lieut. O. S. Owen	—	—

ATTACHED.

Capt. J. A. Ferguson, 5th Royal Ulster Rifles	—	15/7/21
Lieut. and Education Officer R. Clegg, M.C., Army Educational Corps	7/6/21	—
2nd Lieut. R. L. Lund, Indian Army, Un- attached List	—	20/11/21
2nd Lieut. R. H. Stokes, Indian Army, Un- attached List	—	20/11/21
2nd Lieut. A. D. Iliff, Indian Army, Un- attached List	8/8/21	—
2nd Lieut. P. B. Janson, Indian Army, Un- attached List	21/10/21	—

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS OF OFFICERS, ETC.

20/12/1920.—2nd Lieut. T. Fetherstonhaugh promoted Lieutenant.

22/1/1921.—Lieut. E. A. B. Miller, m.c., promoted Captain.

4/2/1921.—Lieut.-Col. Sir H. Wake, Bart., c.m.g., d.s.o., joined Battalion.

7/2/1921.—2nd Lieut. A. D. Iliff, Indian Army, Unattached List, posted to Battalion.

15/4/1921.—Lieut. Hon. J. C. C. Jervis, m.c., appointed extra A.D.C. to His Excellency The Commander-in-Chief in India.

1/6/1921.—Lieut. J. W. S. Maclure, appointed District Supervisor of Physical Training.

7/6/1921.—Lieut. R. Clegg, m.c., A.E. Corps, joined Battalion.

15/7/1921.—Capt. J. A. Ferguson, 5th Bn. Royal Ulster Rifles, demobilised and struck off strength of Battalion.

16/7/1921.—2nd Lieuts. O. St. G. P. Nugent and G. E. R. C. Osborne promoted Lieutenants.

21/10/1921.—2nd Lieut. P. B. Janson, Indian Army, Unattached List, joined Battalion.

29/10/1921.—Capt. R. E. F. G. North and Lieut. E. M. Allfrey, m.c., joined Battalion.

1/11/1921.—Capt. G. F. H. Hayhurst-France, d.s.o., m.c., appointed Offg. Brigade Major, 14th Indian Infantry Brigade.

20/11/1921.—2nd Lieuts. R. L. Lund and R. H. Stokes, Indian Army, Unattached List, struck off strength of Battalion.

30/11/1921.—Major A. P. Evans, d.s.o., retired.

STRENGTH.

		Officers	Other Ranks
Strength on January 1st	- -	30	967
Strength on December 31st	- -	27	864
Drafts from England	- -	4	181
Proceeded Home to England	- -	—	267

MUSKETRY COMPETITIONS

BATTALION RIFLE MEETING.

Held at Quetta on September 12th, 18th, and 14th, 1921.

MATCH NO. 1. SNAP SHOOTING. 200 YARDS.

Class A.	Rfn. Lines, W.	-	A Company.
" B.	" Dent, F.	-	A "
" C.	" Smith, W.	-	A "

MATCH NO. 2. RAPID. 400 YARDS.

Class A.	Rfn. Burchell, R.	-	C Company.
" B.	" Hymas, A.	-	C "
" C.	" Wellard, T.	-	C "

MATCH NO. 3. SLOW. 500 YARDS.

Class A.	Rfn. Trappett, D.	-	C Company.
" B.	" Hawtin, C.	-	C "
" C.	" Smith, W.	-	A "

MATCH NO. 4. AGGREGATE OF MATCHES 1, 2 AND 3.

Class A.	Rfn. Lines, W.	-	A Company.
„	B. Bugler Dalglish, G.	-	C „
„	C. Rfn. Wellard, T.	-	C „

BATTALION CHAMPIONSHIP.

1st.	Rfn. Hymas, A.	-	C Company.
2nd.	„ Woolard, H.	-	C „
3rd.	„ Burchell, R.	-	C „

CORPORALS' MATCH.

1st.	Corpl. Murphy, V.	-	C Company.
2nd.	„ Hoad, S.	-	C „

LANCE-CORPORALS' MATCH.

1st.	L.-Corpl. Edinburgh, A.	-	A Company.
2nd.	„ Harwood, G.	-	D „

COLONEL FORTESCUE'S CUP. 600, 500, AND 300 YARDS.

1st	-	-	-	-	A Company.
2nd	-	-	-	-	D „

GENERAL BLOOMFIELD'S CUP. 200 AND 300 YARDS.

1st.	No. 12 Platoon	-	C Company.
2nd.	No. 13 Platoon	-	D „

CAPTAIN RYDER'S CUP. FALLING PLATES.

1st.	No. 13 Section, 16 Platoon	D Company.
2nd.	No. 1 Section, 5 Platoon	B „

LEWIS GUN MATCH. A.R.A. COMPETITION.

1st.	No. 16 Section, 16 Platoon	D Company.
2nd.	No. 16 Section, 8 Platoon	B „

BALUCHISTAN DISTRICT RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Rifle Meeting held at Quetta on 16th, 17th, and 19th September.

In the individual events the Battalion did well and won a considerable number of prizes, but had no spectacular successes.

The Officers' Revolver Cup was won by Lieut.-Colonel Sir Hereward Wake, and the Officers' Aggregate Cup (Rifle) by Lieutenant G. E. R. C. Osborne.

In the team events the Battalion swept the board, in fact was beaten in only one event—the Machine-Gun Match.

The following were the events and the winning teams:—

The Section Tile Shoot Cup. No. 1 Section, 5 Platoon, B Company.
 The Lewis Gun Match Cup. No. 8 Section, 10 Platoon, C Company.
 The Platoon Match Cup. No. 9 Platoon, C Company.
 The Officers' Revolver Team Cup.
 The Platoon Challenge Cup.
 The Battalion Championship Challenge Cup.



PRIZES WON BY THE 4TH BATTALION
AT THE BALUCHISTAN DISTRICT RIFLE ASSOCIATION, QUETTA,
SEPTEMBER, 1921.

SPORT, 1921**COMPANY CHALLENGE SHIELD.**

Result, 1921.		1st, D Coy.	2nd, B Coy.
Training	- - -	1174	1104
Shooting Competitions	- - -	170	140
Sports, Hockey, Football, etc.	- - -	960	620
Total Points		2304	1864

HOCKEY.

At the beginning of the year the Battalion Hockey Team was very ragged owing to lack of practice. Nevertheless, the Battalion entered for the "All-India Hockey" Tournament, the preliminary rounds being played at Quetta. We met the Staff College B Team in the first round and managed to beat them 4-0. We then met the 2nd Devons—the eventual winners—and after a great game were beaten 2-6.

We then started the Company League Matches for the Company Shield and Hockey Cup. After some good games D Company came out the winners, with C Company runners up beating B Company on goal average only. Very little hockey was played after this until the end of the summer, when the Platoon Knock-out Tournament took place. These matches caused great excitement, and again D Company were victorious—16 Platoon winning with 14 Platoon runners up.

At the end of the year we again entered for the "All-India Hockey" Tournament and were more successful, the team having improved immensely during the year under the able tuition of Sergt. Brooks. We met C Divisional Signals in the first round and beat them 5-0. We then met the 2nd Cameronians, and after a struggle beat them 3-2. We were now in the final and had to meet our old foes the 2nd Devons. It was a fine game and they just managed to beat us 1-0. Meanwhile the Companies had been playing in the "Pellier" Cup Competition, open to all companies, batteries and similar units in Baluchistan. We have not been very successful, but D Company are in the semi-finals, and the Headquarter Company were only just beaten by the R.A.F.

We hope that next year more interest still will be taken

in hockey, and at the third attempt we will beat the 2nd Devons and represent the District in the "All-India" Tournament.

FOOTBALL.

The Battalion did not enter a Regimental team outside the station, owing to losing nine players to the United Kingdom, 1920-21. After several friendly games with the 4th Battalion The Rifle Brigade, it was decided that the team was not strong enough to take part in any of the Tournaments down country. The results of the matches with the 4th Battalion The Rifle Brigade were as follows :—

Won, 1. Drawn, 1. Lost, 3.

A team was entered for the "All-India Knock-out" Competition, and in view of this two games were played against the 11th Pack Battery, R.G.A. Our opponents proved too strong and won comfortably on both occasions. This was expected, as we were experimenting with young players with a view to selecting a team to meet the 2nd Battalion Devonshire Regiment in the first round of the above Cup.

This match took place on the 14th December. The game had not proceeded very far before Rifleman Denman gave us the lead with a clever hook shot from a rebound. The Devons, who have a very fast forward line, were not long in equalizing, and at half-time the score was 1 all.

On resuming, we again took the lead through a splendid individual effort by Sergt. Carter. From then onward the defence was sorely tried, and to make things worse Rifleman Denman had to leave the field through injuries. Ten minutes from the end the Devons, after a great effort, got the equalizer. Time came and everyone thought that a replay would be necessary, but unfortunately the referee allowed time for a corner kick to be taken against us, from which the Devons scored, which decided the issue.

Sergt. Joyner deserves special mention for his brilliant display in goal. Team :—

Sergt. Joyner, goal; Sergt. Hoad and Rfn. Millership, backs; Rfn. Minet, L.-Corpl. Withers, and Rfn. Kersey, half-backs; Rfn. Hill, Rfn. Sherlock, Rfn. Beale, Rfn. Denman, and Sergt. Carter, forwards.

COMPANY FOOTBALL.

The Company Football League was won by B Company, with A Company as runners up.

The Company Football Knock-out was won by D Company, with B Company as runners up.

The Inter-Platoon Football Knock-out was won by No. 8 Platoon, with No. 16 Platoon runners up.

The Platoon 2nd XI Football Knock-out was won by No. 16 Platoon, with No. 15 Platoon runners up.

BATTALION SPORTS.

The Battalion Sports were held on the new Football Ground in Barracks on October 31st and November 1st. The entries were very good, and, though perhaps rather a large number dropped out before the Sports began, the number of starters was very fair. The weather was excellent, and it was generally agreed that holding the Sports in Barracks was a great improvement, and the obvious interest taken by everyone more than compensated for the deficiencies of the ground.

As usual in Battalion Sports the same names keep appearing in the prize list, but this does not mean that there was no competition, and most of the events were very hotly contested. B Company's sweeping victory was thoroughly deserved. In 1920 they were last instead of first, and the result reflects the greatest credit on C.-Q.-M.-S. Walker and Sergt. Carter, who worked so hard in organizing and training their team. The results were as follows:—

100 Yards.—1, L.-Corpl. Holmes (B); 2, Sergt. Carter (B); 3, C.-Q.-M.-S. Walker (B).
 220 Yards.—1, L.-Corpl. Holmes (B); 2, Sergt. Carter (B); 3, Rfn. Dickenson (A).
 440 Yards.—1, Sergt. Buckingham (D); 2, Rfn. Baker (B); 3, Sergt. Carter (B).
 880 Yards.—1, Rfn. Prizeman (B); 2, Sergt. Stockley (A); 3, Rfn. Renel (B).
 One Mile.—1, Sergt. Buckingham (D); 2, Rfn. Prizeman (B); 3, Rfn. Patterson (D).
 Three Miles.—1, Rfn. Samuels (D); 2, Rfn. Renel (B); 3, Rfn. Dormody (C).
 Hurdles.—1, Sergt. Carter (B); 2, Lieut. Skinner (B); 3, L.-Corpl. Dangerfield (D).
 Obstacle Race.—1, Rfn. Day (D); 2, Rfn. Baker (B); 3, Rfn. Bebee (C).
 Long Jump.—1, Sergt. Carter (B); 2, Rfn. Bebee (C); 3, Rfn. Baker (B).
 High Jump.—1, Rfn. Baker (B); 2, Rfn. Bebee (C) and Sergt. Carter (B).

TOTAL POINTS.

B Company	—	—	—	—	36½ points.
D	—	—	—	—	14 "
C	—	—	—	—	6½ "
A	—	—	—	—	3 "

TUG-OF-WAR.

This was held at the same time as the Sports and produced some most exciting pulls in the heats. The final was rather a tame affair as both teams were in the same Company.

Result—18 Platoon, first; 16 Platoon, second.

PLATOON RELAY RACE.

This was decided on the last day of the Sports. All platoons entered teams in the heats, except two, who disappointed everyone by making no effort at all. In the final run 16 Platoon won, while 8 and 5 Platoons of B Company were close behind.

RUNNING.

From time to time the Athletic Club has had cross-country runs, at which the fields have been keen, but not as large as, perhaps, might have been expected.

The Inter-Company Cross-Country Race, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles, teams of twenty, was held on October 25th. The result was very close and caused the greatest excitement, D Company finally winning by only 8 points. The first three home were:—

Rifleman Patterson (D), 1; Rifleman Samuels (D), 2; Rifleman Prizeman (B), 3.

The order of Companies was:—D, B, C, A.

On November 3rd the Inter-Company Khud Race, teams of twenty, was held up and down Gun Hill, about 1400 feet. B Company here had its revenge for the Cross-Country Race, beating D fairly easily. The order of Companies was:—B, D, C, A, and the first men home were:—

Rifleman Baker (B), 1; L.-Corpl. Pallier (D), 2; Sergt. Collins (C), 3.

BOXING.

In spite of many difficulties the boxing of the Battalion came on extraordinarily during the year, and at the time of writing a team is being trained to take part in the Western Command Tournament at Karachi in February.

The success of the Battalion in the District Tournament was well deserved, but we had it by no means all our own way, as we only beat the 2nd Cameronians by 1 point, and this in the last fight of the Tournament.

During the summer A, C and D Companies each held Company Tournaments, for which there were a large number of entries and in which great keenness was shown.

The Battalion Tournament took place on November 15th, 16th and 17th. There were a fair number of entries in the "open" events and a large number of novices, of whom fifty-nine actually boxed in the Tournament.

On the first night there were perhaps rather a large proportion of poor fights, but after this the boxing both in the novices' and open events was particularly keen and clean, and in all weights the fights were hotly contested.

The results of the finals were as follows:—

OPEN EVENTS.

Light-Weights.—Corpl. Casey (D) beat Rfn. Girling (B)—knock-out.

Girling, who was really a novice, put up a particularly plucky fight.

Feather-Weights.—Rfn. Murphy (C) beat Rfn. Prizeman (B).

NOVICE EVENTS.

Catch-Weights.—Rfn. Knight (A) beat Rfn. Phillips (D).

Middle-Weights.—Rfn. Such (A) beat Rfn. Slater (A).

Welter-Weights.—Rfn. Perry (D) beat Rfn. Fuller (D).

A very even fight. Fuller almost knocked out Perry in the first round.

Light-Weights.—Rfn. Wilson (D) beat Rfn. Tubb (D).

Feather-Weights.—Rfn. Beale (D) beat Rfn. Atkinson (D).

Bantam-Weights.—Rfn. Ridehalgh (C) beat Rfn. Soanes (B).

Fly-Weights.—Rfn. Morgan (B) beat Rfn. Collins (C).

Boys' Heavy-Weights.—Boy Lyons (D) beat Boy Turner (B).

Boys' Light-Weights.—Boy Robertson (C) beat Boy Styles (A).

Both open and novice events scored points towards the Shield, and the totals for the four Companies were as follows:—

D Company	-	-	-	-	101½	points.
B	"	-	-	-	56½	"
C	"	-	-	-	47½	"
A	"	-	-	-	27	"

In this Tournament the Company Novices' Challenge Cup, presented by the late Captain J. R. Wingfield in 1914, just before the outbreak of War, was competed for, for the first time, and was won by D Company, the points being as follows:—

D Company	-	-	-	-	91½	points.
B	"	-	-	-	48½	"
C	"	-	-	-	35½	"
A	"	-	-	-	19	"

The District Boxing Tournament was held on December 6th, 7th and 8th. It consisted of novices' events, for which the Battalion had twenty-two entries and the Open Tournament for the District Boxing Shield.

Teams for the Open Tournament were entered by the Battalion, 2nd Battalion Cameronians, 2nd Battalion Devons, and Royal Artillery.

The final points were:—

1st.	4th K.R.R.C.	-	-	-	-	-	85
2nd.	2nd Bn. Cameronians	-	-	-	-	-	84

The result was in doubt throughout the Tournament, and when the last fight started both Battalions had scored the same number of points. This fight—the Final of the Open Middle-Weights—was extraordinarily even, and at the end of the third round no one could say who was the winner. The fight was awarded, however, to Rifleman Gibbs, and the Tournament was won by 1 point. The results of the Open Finals were as follows:—

Bantam-Weights.—Rfn. Green beat Rfn. Ridehalgh.

Feather-Weights.—Rfn. Murphy beat Rfn. Prizeman.

Light-Weights.—Corpl. Casey beat Pte. Warren, 2nd Devons.

Middle-Weights.—Rfn. Gibbs beat Pte. Craig, 2nd Cameronians.

Officers' Light Heavy-Weights.—Lieut. Brayshaw, 2nd Devons, beat Capt. Hayhurst-France.

There was no representative of the Battalion in the Final of the Welter-Weights, Officers' Middle-Weights, and Officers' Welter-Weights.

In the novices' events the results of the Finals were as follows:—

Fly-Weights.—Rfn. Morgan beat L.-Corpl. Dixon, 2nd Cameronians.

Bantam-Weights.—Rfn. Eyre beat Rfn. Day.

Light-Weights.—Gnr. Vawer, R.G.A., beat Rfn. Girling.

Welter-Weights.—Rfn. Slater beat Pte. Dale, 2nd Cameronians.

Light Heavy-Weights.—Gnr. Moule, R.G.A., beat Rfn. Phillips.

In the Final of the Middle-Weights the Battalion had no representatives.

HUNTING AND POLO.

During the winter, 1920–21, the Quetta Hounds showed very good sport and cheered up many cold and wintry days with a good gallop. The hunt is a drag with a bag-jack put down at the end. The jack does not live in the valley here where hunting is only possible, but up in the mountains where he cannot be hunted.



FEAT PERFORMED BY AN OFFICER OF THE 4TH BATTALION
ON THE GREY COUNTRY-BRED MARE "MISS PIQUE," NOVEMBER 26TH, 1883.

The country is a mixture of cultivation, sun-baked mud and stony wastes. The obstacles, for the most part, ditches and banks, with an occasional wall. Of the former, the Samungli Brook, Double Samungli, Wriggly and Skeik Mandah Double, are the most formidable. In fact the Samungli is often regarded as a "reg'lar arm of the sea" and great is the excitement when it is announced that hounds will run that way. Some people are even said to go so far as to pull out their "Samungli horse" on the fateful day. In addition to these conventional obstacles there are also a great number of karezes. A karez is a deep, narrow irrigation ditch with loose earth heaped up on either side. In depth they vary from six to thirty or more feet, and in their more advanced state they consist of a line of wells joined by an underground tunnel. Some karezes are jumpable, while others aren't. All this sounds very alarming, but there is always a way round, and one can see plenty of sport without laming one's pony or disappearing into the bowels of the earth.

In March the Quetta Hunt and Staff College Point-to-Points and the Team Race provided plenty of interest. In the Team Race a most formidable karez was encountered, into which the Oat vanished completely on the gallant Chanda. If we did not win, at any rate we were not last. The team consisted of:—

Colonel Sir Hereward Wake	-	-	Whistling Rufus.
Captain G. S. Oxley	-	-	Chanda.
Captain G. Hayhurst-France	-	-	Mosque Light.
O. S. Owen	-	-	Sultan.

We opened the Polo Season with an A and B team, but were rather handicapped by lack of ponies. The Staff College and Central India Horse set a high standard of pace and play, and as all our available ponies were on the ground three days a week, their ranks were sadly depleted by the end of the season. We competed in all the Tournaments except the open, and, though we were always defeated, we gave our opponents a gallop on several occasions. Towards the end of the season we evolved a team which cheerfully engaged any opponents, and actually defeated some of the less worthy. Our most desperate struggles were against a Staff College team who called themselves the N.B.G.'s and claimed to be the worst team in Quetta. I forget the

number of times we played them in the attempt to wrest this title from them, but the last four matches were all drawn, and November found the question still undecided. The Hunting Season, 1921-22, is in full swing at the time of writing, although the weather has been exceptionally wet and the country rather deep in consequence. However, our erstwhile polo ponies and flat racers generally catch the master's eye twice a week and we hope they will continue to do so until summer comes again and the sound of the polo ball is heard in the land.

SHOOTING.

Most of us will agree that the least said about the shooting round Quetta the better. We arrived in 1920, congratulating ourselves on coming, at any rate, to the best chukor shooting on the Frontier, and we heard that wildfowl and woodcock were not unknown. Eagerly did we look forward to the winter. The winter, 1920-21, came and we soon realised that Quetta's shooting days were over. Many weary miles were tramped over the hills, many thousands of feet of rocks and precipices were climbed, and the total bag of chukor for the whole season was not twenty brace.

The duck are confined to a desolate band in the middle of a drying-up salt-pan, called Khushdil Khan. This and the Peshin Lora near by are allotted each week-end, and we had it twice during the winter. The first time six guns got the record bag—294 duck—and we had moderate shooting at the second attempt.

Two week-ends in six months, however, do not provide enough sport for a Battalion, and we turned desperately to pigeons and seesees and occasionally an odd duck, which are to be found in and around the Quetta Lora—a dismal water channel through the desert which is the only approach to a river in the district.

We certainly got a few birds, but very few.

In the spring and summer there was a drought and it looked as if the few remaining chukor and seesees would soon disappear, so this winter, 1921-22, the shooting of these birds has been forbidden. We are therefore reduced to our two week-ends at Khushdil Khan and a few pigeons.

Quetta is certainly not the "shooter's paradise."

GROUP OF OFFICERS OF THE 4TH BATTALION,
Ferozepore, 1884.



Standing—Lieut. Lord Walter Fitzgerald, Lieut. R. Eucharan Riddell, Major Maxwell, Lieut. H. R. Rawlinson. Lieut. C. Boulbee.
Sitting—Lieut. A. Blewitt, Lieut. C. Gordon Clark, Major Notman, Lieut. G. W. Crane, Major A. Morris, Colonel Algar.
Front—Lieut. C. J. Markham, Lieut. F. Marsham, Lieut. G. C. Lister. Lieut. G. Atgood.

GENERAL LORD RAWLINSON AND THE 4th BATTALION

General Lord Rawlinson dined with the Officers of the 4th Battalion on April 11th, 1921, during his visit of inspection to Quetta as Commander-in-Chief.

The Hon. Colonel A. Dew, Agent to the Governor-General, and Major-General W. Vaughan, Commandant of the Staff College, were also invited to meet His Excellency.

After dinner the Warrant Officers and Senior Sergeants of the Battalion came into the Mess.

His Excellency's health was proposed by Lieut.-Colonel Sir H. Wake in a short speech, in which he congratulated him on behalf of all ranks on his appointment as Commander-in-Chief, and assured him of the loyalty and affection of his old Battalion. Though they had not yet got back to the high standard of efficiency of old days, he asked the Commander-in-Chief to believe that he would find the same ideals and traditions which he remembered when he joined the Regiment thirty years ago.

Lord "Rawly," in reply, spoke of his first six years of service in the 4th Battalion in India as the happiest time of his life, and said he was delighted to find himself once more, after over thirty years, dining with his brother officers.

He had been very pleased with the appearance of the Battalion on parade, and he felt confident that in a few months they would be as good as ever they were, and ready for any service they might be asked to perform.

He referred to the many occasions on which various Battalions of the Regiment had served under his command in France, and to many old friends in the Regiment who had died in the War. In conclusion, he wished the Battalion the best of luck and hoped he would have many opportunities of meeting it while he remained in India. The speech was greeted with loud cheers throughout and gave the greatest pleasure to all who heard it. Immediately afterwards His Excellency spoke to all the Warrant and N.C.O.'s present.

Before leaving he inspected the Cups, including the Cigarette Box he had himself presented, and looked through the old albums, in which he found his own photograph

and sketches. The following entry occurs in the Lie Book, dated 1884:—

“Rawlinson goes for a day's shooting!”

A Subaltern's lunch.

A piece of cold meat.	$\frac{1}{2}$ dozen lemonade.
Some onions and potatoes.	4 bottles beer.
My porridge.	Some biscuits (ginger).
$\frac{1}{2}$ dozen soda.	Jam.

2nd Lieut. H. S. Rawlinson was one of those who took part in the Officers' Moonlight Steeplechase at Lahore on June 4th, 1885. Eighteen years later, in 1903, the officers of the 4th Battalion celebrated June 4th in a similar manner at Harrismith with a moonlight hunt. On both occasions a serious fall somewhat marred the proceedings. There was no moon on June 4th, 1921, at Quetta.

GUIDE TO BALUCHISTAN

Baluchistan is an assortment of mountains and plains which fill in the gap between Afghanistan and Persia and the more habitable parts of India. The country has one road, two railways, and no rivers. Such streams as there are never reach the sea, but vanish into the deserts of Registan.

The mountains are composed of mud and rocks, and the plains of mud and sand. In the summer the sun is hot, and the wind blowing from Kandahar blows the sand off the plains into the hills; in the winter it is very cold, and the wind blowing from off the snows, blows the sand off the hills into the plains.

The fauna of the country consists of Markhor and Pathans. The former live on the precipitous tops of inaccessible mountains, and you pursue them with a rifle. The latter live on the inaccessible tops of precipitous mountains, and pursue you with a rifle. Murder is not a crime in Baluchistan. There is no flora.

The British Government occupies the country, because if they did not no one else would. Some more unfortunate people have to live amongst the mountains; everyone else who can lives in Quetta.

Quetta is built in a valley close under the hills. In this way it gets the hot dust in the summer and the cold wind in the winter. Unlike the rest of Baluchistan it possesses a number of trees, and the lawn at the Club is green all through the summer. This is most important.

A great number of people in Quetta own a horse. This hunts in the winter, plays polo in the summer, and pulls the buggy down to the Club on Sundays. If it can gallop faster than you can kick your hat it also races. Everyone knows that other people's horses cannot gallop faster than this; but, as one horse must win in every race, racing is a very exciting sport.

There is so much society in Quetta that a large number of troops are required to safeguard it. The soldiers occupy their time in training. The training season starts on April 1st and goes on till March 31st, when it starts again. The officers spend their time in polo, poodle-faking, and telling each other when they are going on leave. No one ever really goes on leave except the Staff, which is so large that all the Regimental officers are required to fill up the vacancies.

At the far end of Quetta is the Staff College. All the irresponsible officers in India are collected here every year, and are instructed by a number of even more irresponsible officers. This is one of the few institutions which prevents the Army from getting too serious.

In the old days people who were sent to Quetta used to die almost at once. Nowadays the railway service is better, so that they can get back to India and die there.

TIGER SHOOTING

BY CAPTAIN H. O. CURTIS, D.S.O.

The experiences, which I am about to try and recount, occurred during a shooting trip in the Melghat Hills in Berar during Christmas leave, 1920. The unexpected happens daily in the jungle, but perhaps I came in for more than my ordinary share of strange incidents during a six weeks' shoot.

My efforts will not have been in vain, if anyone can glean a hint from my article, or if it encourages a brother sportsman to go to the jungle.

I began with several Christmas sambhar and pea-fowl shoots, got up by the kindly forest officer, who asked all and sundry from far and wide. That I emerged from the ordeal with a whole skin I attribute entirely to the adoption of the plan found sometimes essential in England at a Christmas shoot, when the schoolboys are at home, *i.e.*, that of jumping behind the biggest tree at the first shout of "Woodcock."

I then started on a fortnight's tour with the forest officer through the heart of Melghat. The district is peopled by interesting and intensely superstitious aborigines called Korkus; and is a mass of very steep and thickly-clad hillsides rising to 3500 feet, with streams, holding fish, in the valleys. Beating is generally quite out of the question.

After a long march the first day, we went out to shoot a jungle fowl for supper. On my firing at a green pigeon, a large tiger got up twenty-five yards away and climbed a very steep cliff out of the river bed. Fortunately my host could see him and, seizing his rifle, killed him stone dead with a long shot.

This astounding piece of luck appeared to be a good omen for the trip, which, however, was not to be fulfilled, as red dog interfered, and there was little or no moon; so, though we were in touch with several tigers, no more were bagged.

One, previously wounded, "killed" twice but refused to return; while another was frightened off his kill, and would not come back to it until it was pitch dark.

On yet another occasion, hearing of a natural kill, I arrived at the place at dusk. The tiger, or probably tigress, came when it was too dark to see her; and was making a hearty meal within a few yards of my tree when, suddenly, she was charged by another tiger from 100 yards up the "khud." She fled; but was caught, and a terrific fight ensued before she could escape. Then the charging tiger roared a challenge to the jungle; a sound never to be forgotten.

A few minutes later he returned and had his meal. He then walked up the valley uttering at intervals the deep-throated roar of the well-fed contented tiger—"A a a h—ount." Back he came the next night, when again I could

not see him; but I fired as he was so close. He returned in a few minutes when I fired a second time, still without result. But, on my returning at dawn, he was still near the kill and was found by the dogs, though undoubtedly he had not been hit.

On the first night I had found all the villagers clustered in the verandah of the forest bungalow, scared to death by the sounds of battle, and the tiger's challenge. My servant gave notice on the spot; and refused to travel by night any more as the tigers had a playful way of taking a bullock out of a passing cart. In fact his nerves did not recover their equilibrium until Quetta was reached. And even now he throws a furtive glance over his shoulder as he enters the drawing room. For, although a stolen whisker is probably in his possession as a charm, who knows but that the tiger, snarling angrily on the wall, may not one day grab him by the neck?

In the meantime a tiger, known for several years as "Alphonse," with whom I had tried to get in touch the previous April, had killed three times in my own block. This tiger was a character. There was a price on his head; and his boldness and cunning were proverbial, for he had often been fired at. A cast of his pug in the possession of the forest officer helped to identify him in his various misdeeds. Alphonse had a knack of spotting you in your tree and then he would lie in a thick "lantana" bush, growling and cursing at you. During the War he so frightened a Territorial private soldier in this way that the latter sang hymns in his "machan" the live-long night till dawn. Once, too, he sauntered over the little golf course in broad daylight, which last escapade was all too much for the green-keeper—a plainsman, unused to tigers. So he arrived hot-foot to tell the tale. A cobra in a putting hole perhaps, but tigers on the tee, No! He must go at once.

Although not actually a man-eater, Alphonse had on two separate occasions ripped the clothing off the backs of Korkus, whom he had happened to meet. The second man, half-scalped, went insane from fright and wandered naked in the jungle for a fortnight. Alphonse in consequence was proclaimed a man-eater; but, on his victim's reappearance,

ance, the stain on his escutcheon was washed out, although a price still remained on his head. Meanwhile the Melghat's awe increased; for it came to be well known that a powerful "bhut" was in league with Alphonse, and led poor and unsuspecting Korkus astray in the jungle so that he could play his wicked pranks upon them. The dak runners grew thinner and thinner, and arrived earlier and earlier of an evening.

The height of impudence was reached, however, when Alphonse took a fine cow actually from the forest officer's own bungalow—stole it almost off the verandah of the sahib who had not only shot his sixty tigers, but had even fired twice at him—Alphonse.

On my returning to my block, Alphonse and his wife Fifi soon killed together and finished my "hela" completely. A "hela" is a young water buffalo bull. It may seem very cruel to tie up these animals to be killed. Fortunately, they are the least imaginative creatures in the world and spend the night munching grass and chewing the cud until suddenly seized. It is only through their medium that a tiger can be bagged, either by beating or "sitting up"; and it must be remembered that a man-eating or cattle-raiding tiger is a very real scourge to the whole countryside.

A fresh "hela" was tied up in the same place in hopes that one or both of the tigers might return. This they duly did about 7 p.m. There was a brilliant full moon; and, after taking thirty minutes to make up their minds to come out and kill, Alphonse decided to allow Fifi to have the honour. "Ladies first," anyway, when there was a bright moon, was Alphonse's motto.

The "hela" was tied on a road which ran over a very narrow neck. Fifi came down the road, jumped on to the low wall (about two feet high and one foot broad), and, crouching low, crept forward along it. The "hela" faced her gallantly. On getting within striking distance, Fifi gave a slap at him with her right paw. But the "hela" swung round, so that she only tore the bell and rope from off its neck. Then, as she crouched to spring, I shot her, and down she fell behind the wall. Whereupon the "hela," with the utmost sangfroid, at once turned round and stood

staring over the wall, as much as to say, "That's the way to deal with tigers."

Another tiger killed at the same place shortly afterwards, and dragged the kill far down the "khud." So I did not find it till 11 a.m. It was carefully buried in bamboo leaves and untouched. I got up into a tree as quickly as possible and sent the men up the "khud," ordering them to chatter as they went. In ten minutes the tigress, for such it was, walked slowly up the "khud" in the open, in bright sunlight, to investigate her "kill"!

The bullet (470 H.V.) glanced off her shoulder blade and went downwards, coming out at the fetlock. Away she tore down the "khud"; and, as she went over a nearly precipitous place, I was astonished to see her trail her hind-legs behind her to put on the brake, much in the same attitude as a steeplechase horse when he is clearing the top of a fence.

After following her trail till dark, I sat up all night in a tree over the nearest water; but, although a panther came when it was too dark to shoot, the tigress did not appear. The next day the search was reinforced by the arrival of my wife's dachshund; but it was not until 4 p.m. that the tigress was found in a hole under a large boulder. The dachshund went half-way into the hole, and stayed there barking continuously for some minutes—the bravest thing I ever saw—until the tigress bolted. Fortunately she did no harm to the dog, over whom she galloped.

This time she was mortally wounded, and fell dead in 100 yards. She proved to be Mimi, another of Alphonse's wives.

A few days later I just flicked another tiger in an impromptu sambhar beat with the forest officer; it was a long shot. We fetched the elephant; but, as she was not staunch and there were cliffs on three sides, we elected to stay on foot. Curiously enough, as it turned out, this tiger had moved back to his original piece of lantana jungle, and, in going back, it had used a narrow nullah only a few yards from the spot where my wife and the forest officer's wife were standing. In the evening it got up again in a pea-fowl beat behind the forest officer, who was below me.

The forest officer yelled to me, "Here's the tiger; run like blazes!" The fat Hindu ranger interpreted it to mean that he was to run *up* the "khud." And this he did with most surprising agility, disappearing for half an hour!

We were most unlucky in failing only by a matter of seconds in anticipating the tiger at a nullah, which led into an impenetrable lantana jungle.

Mentioning the elephant reminds me of the forest officer's dodge for preventing her corn being stolen by the "mahout." The ranger, a not very high caste Hindu, used to spit into each bag of grain in the presence of three witnesses! And here, surely, the sahib might take a hint as regards his polo ponies. For it is not the eye only of the master that makes the pony fat in India.

Alphonse continued his attacks on cattle; and pulled my leg constantly and with complete success. First, we tried two beats, but in vain; and then he walked all night round a live tie-up, but could not make up his mind to kill in a full moon. Once, too, I went twelve miles to a natural, but untouched, kill of his close to a village. And this time he did return; but the cattle in the village winded him and stampeded, which so frightened the villagers, already thoroughly rattled, that they lit fires. So Alphonse, very hungry, returned that very night to his headquarters twelve miles away, and killed. Next morning I followed his tracks up the forest road, passing on the way one of my "helas" killed by two leopards. I sent a man back to keep the leopards off the kill that night; but, on his reaching it at 4 p.m., they had already re-visited and finished it off. I had shot a pair of leopards together at this very spot a few months previously.

That night Alphonse waited till the moon dropped and then visited his kill, which was in such thick undergrowth in a dark nullah that it was not possible to shoot. So he had bested me again.

It was now my last week and it looked as if Alphonse was going to win the match. But, two days before I had to leave, he took a fine cow out of a stockade in a village. And then he made his one mistake.

I sat up over the kill early. At 3.30 p.m. a great number of vultures found it; and then the usual Rugby Football

scrum ensued over the carcase, the vultures often jumping on each other's backs in their endeavours to get a mouthful.

But at 4 p.m. Alphonse could bear it no longer; there was his kill being gobbled up in full view. So out he charged; a grand sight. He fell stone dead to the shot, so finishing his very remarkable career of four or five years' marauding. He was found to have two old bullet grazes; one between the eyes, where there was a bad abscess, and another in the tail.

Alphonse was the proud possessor of many wives, and no other male tiger even dared venture in his block. His children will rule the Melghat Jungle for many a long year to come. For, if not actually as the sands of the sea for multitude, still they are probably as numerous as the progeny of the old Nana Sahib of Bahutbachalog, a celebrity in those parts. Every sahib this old rascal meets is asked, "How many children have you?" And, having given your modest quota, you are expected to return the question, to which you will receive the somewhat startling reply, "Hee, Hee! seventeen-six. Hee! Hee! Hee!"

The Korkus of the Melghat prize the flesh of a tiger highly, and will cut up and carry away the entire carcase. So it was with Alphonse. The ranger claimed his tongue, rough as a file, because it is a certain cure for whooping cough; while the children ate his eyes to enable them to see in the dark. Alphonse was literally no more in body, but the Korkus, hurrying to their huts at sundown, will tell you that his spirit still wanders in his old hunting grounds. Who knows but that they are right? H. O. C.

[The following articles have been sent to the Editor by Warrant Officers of the 4th Battalion, and are much appreciated. It is hoped that their example may encourage others to go and do likewise.]

Extracts from a Diary on the Move of the 4th Battalion from the Murree Hills, India, to France and the Trenches of Belgium.

BY ORDERLY ROOM Q.-M.-S. A. GRIFFITH.

It was a Sunday morning, October 4th, 1914, and the time 4.15, when I was shown a telegram from Simla saying

the Battalion was to mobilize for France, and be prepared to leave at once.

As soon as morning broke I was up and dressed, whistled my dog, hired a "tat" (pony) and hastened across the "gullies" (hills) to the Battalion at Gharial. On the way I met several men of the Regiment and was greeted with, "Have you heard the news?" I enquired, "What news?" although it was quite apparent from the expressions on their faces what the answer would be. A few minutes' chat and I was on my way again. Trotting along I took little notice of the country, and truly October is one of the best, if not the best month to be in the foot hills of the Himalayas. The air beautifully clear, I could see Rawalpindi in the distance, a matter of thirty-nine miles by road but much nearer across country, of course. The road, shaded by trees, appears not unlike a snake, as it winds over the plains.

Arriving at the Sergeants' Mess, in time for breakfast, I was disappointed at not being able to give out the news. I had forgotten the men I had passed on the road and who knew all about it. However, there was plenty to talk about and much excitement during the morning, and I'm quite certain more trade was done in the Mess that day than had ever been done before. The morning quickly passed, and after dinner I made my way back to Murree. For the remainder of the day my mind and conversation was, naturally, concentrated chiefly on the move to England and France.

At about 5 p.m., October 6th, 1914, the Battalion began its march from Gharial to Rawalpindi in a pouring rain, and before Sunnybank had been reached everyone was soaked. Early in the afternoon of the following day everyone was in barracks, having accomplished the journey in record time, a distance of forty-two miles. I joined the Battalion next day.

The next two days were very busy ones for all ranks, loading transport carts and unloading them into the railway trucks at the station. By the evening of October 9th, Friday, all work was done and the Battalion "Fell in" at 8 p.m., during a thunderstorm, for the march to the station. The Band and Buglers played as they had never

played before; the excitement was intense. Many troops of other Regiments were *en route* to see us off with the shouting of, "Are we down-hearted?" "So long, good luck," "Wish I was in your Mob," etc., etc. By 9 p.m. we were in the train and half an hour later moved off. There were many tears from the wives of those left behind. In ordinary times such a parting is hard, but no one understands unless they have actually experienced it, the strain during a silence which says so much; good-bye of husband and wife. Slowly the train moved out of the station, amid the waving of hands; those on the platform to return to homes where *one* would be absent; whilst those in the train would soon forget the parting for the time being, by the varied conversation of their comrades.

Next morning the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, stationed at Lahore, had breakfast waiting on the station, and gave us a fine reception. After a short stay we were on the way again, and at 1 p.m. Jullundur was reached. During the afternoon the train passed through a sand-storm, followed by a thunderstorm in the evening, which considerably cooled the atmosphere.

At 6.10 a.m., Sunday, October 11th, the Battalion arrived at Delhi and stayed until 7.30 a.m., during which time we had breakfast and improved our appearance from the many taps and tubs, from whence a good supply of water could be obtained. The heat was excessive, and at 10.30 a.m., when the train stopped at a small wayside station, where we had a pint of tea each, the perspiration was just simply rolling off us all. The remainder of the day passed without anything of importance to relate.

Breakfast next morning, Monday, was at Muttra, where we were joined by two other rifle Regiments, 3rd Rifle Brigade and 3rd K.R.R.C. Baroda was reached at 8 p.m., where we had a very fine reception. Refreshments were provided on the platform for about 900 of us by the Gaekwar of Baroda, and the music provided by his band was much appreciated. The "Fall in" sounded all too soon, and whilst the National Anthems of the Allies were being played the train moved out of the station.

Tuesday morning at 6.30 we were 128 miles from Bombay, and to do that journey took seven and a half hours, arriving

at Bombay at 2 p.m., the total duration of the journey being three days, sixteen and a half hours. By 3 p.m. we were all on board the S.S. *Ionia*, an Allan Line boat of 8000 tons. The heat was terrific and the mosquitoes were awful.

The sun rose next morning at about 4 a.m., and its rays cleared the atmosphere of a hot, stinking, lingering, odour; but when reveillé sounded an hour later, the heat appeared as bad as ever. At 5.30 the work of unloading the trucks and loading the boat had commenced, and by 2 p.m. everything was on board. The troops, through the hard work of the morning, though scantily attired, resembled a party of bathers who had not taken their clothes off. During the evening the sergeants were allowed in the town.

At 6.30 next morning, Thursday, October 15th, the boat moved slowly away from the quay to a position in the middle of the harbour and anchored. This was a splendid change, as the mosquitoes had been left behind and it was somewhat cooler. Except for the searchlights at night nothing of interest occurred.

Friday saw the last of India for many of us. The *Ionia* got under way at 5 p.m. with the remainder of the convoy, which was made up of about sixty ships, escorted by H.M.S. *Ocean*, *Swiftsure*, and *Duke of Edinburgh*.

The weather was much cooler next morning, and a good part of the day was spent in trying to recognise the names of the other boats. Our greatest trouble was money; it was impossible to get change and nearly all had gold coin, with the result that a person going to the canteen to buy something costing about 1s. or 1s. 6d. was compelled to spend considerably more to get change.

The 18th, 19th, 20th, and 21st were uneventful days, but the 22nd was miserable, raining nearly all the day, and fresh water had begun to run out. The boat was therefore ordered to leave the convoy and proceed to Aden to take in a fresh supply. On the 23rd drinking water could not be obtained.

At 2 a.m. on the 24th Aden was reached, and everyone was up early to see the place. Much trade was done with the natives from their boats in the customary way by using baskets and ropes. The convoy joined us during the day,

and selections by the Band of H.M.S. *Swiftsure* were much appreciated by us all. Our Band and Buglers as well as the 8rd Battalion's also played. At 7.30 p.m. the convoy was on its way again.

There was always something wrong with our old tub, either a list to one side or the other, the ash ejector broken, or the fresh water not turned on, or the salt water pump broken; however, she got along all right till October 29th, when an awful stench warned us something else was wrong. Hundreds of pounds of putrid meat and fish were being thrown overboard. Being a North Atlantic trading boat she had not the refrigerator space necessary for voyages to the East, hence the food had turned bad during the hot weather recently experienced. During the evening we enjoyed a very good concert.

At 7.30 a.m. on the 30th the convoy anchored at Suez. No drinking or washing water from 8 a.m. until late at night made us very uncomfortable.

The Canal was entered at 2 a.m. the following morning. Companies of Gurkhas and some English soldiers were holding the Canal at various points. Passing through the Convoy, which had daily got smaller as boats left us for other ports, the boat anchored at Port Said at 5 p.m.

On November 1st at 1.30 p.m. a bathing parade took place. We were taken from the boat to the shore by lighters and then marched about a mile to the place for bathing. It bucked everyone up and many were sorry when the "get dressed" sounded. Hundreds of tons of sand and water were taken on the boat during the day. Escorted by a French cruiser the diminished convoy left at 12 noon, November 2nd.

The following day and for the remainder of the voyage wireless messages were received regarding the War. The boat had a wretched list, so one afternoon someone hit upon the bright idea of shifting the sand. A fatigue party was paraded, sent down to the hold, each man with a small shovel. The process was as follows:—A shovel full of sand was picked up by "A" and thrown by him to "B," who picked it up and threw it to "C," who transferred it to its proper place on the other side of the boat. Heath Robinson missed his masterpiece for the *Sketch*.

Try, if possible, to imagine the thousands of shovel-fuls of sand it would take to get the list off an 8000 ton boat, and you will have an idea of the spectacle presented to those who were looking on.

At 10 a.m., November 9th, the remainder of the boats were lost sight of; and on the morning of the 11th the *Ionia* anchored in Gibraltar. This time water had to be taken on, but the naval officer on the Rock would not let our captain have his requirements owing to our boat being behind, and so he was ordered to leave at 12.30 p.m. By tea time the *Ionia* had caught up the convoy, which now consisted of seven boats, and a cruiser as escort.

The 13th and 16th were rough days and the boat rolled considerably; but all safe and sound on Monday, November 16th, the boat entered the harbour at Plymouth, after being exactly one month on a most unpleasant voyage.

It was not until the 18th that we were all ashore, and the Battalion was taken by two trains to Winchester, where a good meal had been prepared in the Officers' Mess, Sergeants' Mess and the Men's Dining Rooms of the Rifle Depot. After the much appreciated breakfast the Battalion marched to Morn Hill Camp, arriving there at 11.30 a.m., November 19th, 1914.

We remained in camp for exactly one month and a day. The first few days were spent in getting warm clothing, which was badly needed, as we had arrived in England wearing thin Indian clothes. Our greatest trouble was the rain—after a week there the place was a quagmire; but in spite of the cold and rain the health of all was excellent, due, no doubt, to the good, wholesome food we were getting.

Being fitted up with clothes the next thing was leave, and in small parties all went away for five days.

Parades and route marches took place daily for those who were not away on leave, or on some fatigue, and so the time quickly passed, and at 9 a.m., December 20th, the Battalion was on its way to Southampton for France.

Owing to long, unavoidable halts we did not get to the docks till 4 p.m. By 6.15 p.m. all were on board. The boat was a trader of the Pacific and owned the name of *Haunchaco*. At 7.30 p.m. she moved out of Southampton escorted by a torpedo boat. The night was bitterly cold,

and we just simply had to do the best we could to keep ourselves warm for the short time we had to be on the boat.

The 21st was a very cold morning, and at 7 p.m. the boat was at Havre; but owing to the low tide had to wait until 1.20 p.m. to enter the harbour. The Battalion immediately disembarked and remained in one of the spacious dock sheds till 8 a.m. on December 22nd, when the "Fall in" sounded and we marched to the station. Apart from the cold the day in the sheds was not too bad. The four ladies of the Y.M.C.A. were, or should have been, the admiration of all, for the cheerful way in which they tried to attend to the wants of nearly 1000 men.

We were soon sorted out into parties of thirty-eight, the number of men to each truck. The trucks bore the inscription, "Hommes 40, Chevaux 8," so we were very lucky in having the additional space, supposed to be occupied by two men, to divide amongst us. The journey took twenty-seven hours; but we had several long, welcome halts, which gave us a chance to have a stretch and buy bread at exorbitant prices, owing to our scanty knowledge of the language—"oui" stood for everything and anything. The French were glad to see us and were much excited, as was shown by the waving of hats, shouting, throwing of kisses, etc., as the train passed through the villages and towns.

What with telling yarns, playing cards, eating, and sight-seeing, the time quickly passed, and at 6 a.m. on the 23rd the Battalion detrained at Aire and marched about three miles to billets. Everyone had earned a rest, and, speaking for myself and a few others in the same barn, it was the most peaceful sleep for weeks.

The next morning the Battalion had to move to billets in Blaringham, owing, presumably, to our having occupied wrong ones the day before. By noon all were settled down and fairly comfortable. During the evening most of the Battalion found its way to the many estaminets of the village, and several "Wee draps in the bottle for the mornin'" were brought back to billets for Christmas. Nothing more was done on this day than was necessary, and on the whole a very happy time was spent.

From December 26th until January 5th, 1915, the time

was passed in trench digging, route marches, and parades during the day, and at night in visiting the cafés.

On the latter date the Battalion marched through Hazebrouck to Caestre, a distance of about ten miles, and went into billets.

At 6 a.m. on the 6th we paraded for the march to Dickebusch. It was a hard day for us, owing to the bad condition of the roads, and the varied rates of marching, and the many halts. At about 2.30 p.m., during one of the halts, a fight between aeroplanes was witnessed for about ten minutes, but, owing to the heavy clouds, they were soon lost sight of, so the result of the battle was unknown to us. Just before dusk the Battalion moved off again, and at 6 p.m. we marched through Dickebusch, where we thought we were staying for the night; but, alas, another two miles had to be done to get to the ruined hamlet of Elzonwalle. About a mile beyond the former place there was a row of villas on the right-hand side of the road and the centre one had almost been burned to the ground, the fire having been started, presumably, from the shelling that had taken place during the day, and the house was still smouldering when we passed. It was surprising to see the other houses occupied under such conditions; the windows were heavily curtained or boarded, and only the faintest ray of light penetrated from the interiors. Slowly and silently the Battalion moved along; no smoking or talking being allowed. The only sound was that of the tread of tired men and an occasional "Oh!" as a man fell into, or stumbled over, a shell-hole, and the "pings" of the rifle bullets, which, seeming very near, made us all "duck" and realize there was a war on. Nearing Elzonwalle the Battalion halted to be told off, by companies, to the various houses. In the ruins beautiful furniture, though somewhat shattered, still remained and was used for barricading the windows to prevent the light escaping.

At 6 a.m. the Battalion "stood to" for an hour, but nothing happened, except that a barn, about 300 yards in front of the end house on the right of the road, was set on fire by shells. About 5.30 p.m. the Battalion "fell in"—darkness had fallen and everything was done with the utmost quietness—and, on being relieved by another

Regiment, we marched quietly away in a dismal rain, for the trenches. Leaving the "Cross Roads" on the right, Vermezele was soon reached; but there was not much left of it. The Dressing Station was in one of the ruined cottages in front of what remained of the Church—two shattered walls. The whistle of bullets seemed uncomfortably close and the star-shells, illuminating the ruins of the village, gradually brought home to us the horrors of war. Bearing round to the left, and passing two abandoned motor-buses, we were soon at St. Eloi, and the Battalion took up its position in the trenches without a casualty, Headquarters being in a cellar near the barricade at the Cross Roads.

During the morning of the 8th a Frenchman found his way to Battalion Headquarters. His arms and legs were frost bitten and he could scarcely crawl. We did the best we could for him, but I believe he died in the Dressing Station, where he was taken during the evening. As soon as dusk had fallen nine of our wounded fellows were taken to the doctor and during the day nine were killed.

On the 9th Headquarters was shelled unmercifully, and one shell bursting near the cellar, wounded the Commanding Officer's Bugler, who died a fortnight later in England from his wounds. The shelling never ceased during our stay there. Our casualties were one killed and seven wounded for the day.

Sunday morning, January 10th, came round after an uneventful night. During the day we had four killed and six wounded, bringing the total to fourteen killed and twenty-two wounded for the three days. During the evening we were relieved by a Jock Regiment; and the Battalion began to move to billets at Dickesbusch at about 9 p.m. The three days of freezing mud and water had shattered for life some of the finest specimens of England's manhood. It was not till after midnight that the exhausted men, who had fallen by the roadside, had all been brought in to billets where hot tea, soup and food was ready for those who were able to eat. Many were flattened out on the cold stone floors unconscious, but with the morning the change in the helpless ones of the previous night was marvellous. The number admitted to hospital during the next day or so was over 850!

Thus ends a brief story of the 4th Battalion during its move from India to the trenches of Belgium, and its commencement in the Great War of love and liberty, and a continuance of the Regiment's glorious traditions in the history of England.

THE HINDUBAGH TRAINING

BY C.-S.-M. S. PUGH, 4th Battalion.

In May 1921 A and B Companies proceeded to Hindubagh, about seventy-five miles, by march route for training.

Perhaps a brief account of this training may be of interest to those who in times past took part in similar expeditions; also to those who took part in this one, but have not yet made a summary of their experiences, or of the lessons learnt, and, above all, to those unfortunate souls, who, although with the Battalion, tugged in vain on the chain that bound them to the (sheltering) rock of Regimental employment.

Bearing in mind the hot criticism of the style in which a portion of the history of the Battalion has been written, an attempt has been made to avoid producing anything in the nature of a diary.

In order to fully appreciate the value of this training it is necessary to understand the composition and condition of the Battalion at this time.

The winter of 1919 found the Battalion back in India, and largely composed of what, weighed by pre-war standards, and measured by Indian service conditions, might justly be considered as "untrained and insufficiently mobile."

The summer of 1920 was spent at Quetta, a depot being left at Belgaum. Something might have been done during this period had not the demands of Garrison and Regimental duties taken so many N.C.O.'s and men away from training.

In 1921 training was taken in hand more vigorously, especially after it was known that Companies were to march to Hindubagh. Fortunately, sufficient warning was received, and the Commanding Officer, assisted by the Company Commanders, at once arranged training programmes, calculated to train and test the men. Employed N.C.O.'s

and men were relieved on days when their Companies were training, even the disciples of William Caxton appeared on parade, and it was discovered in some instances that by working continuously, the labours of four could be performed by two; the result of this was that Companies were as strong as possible on these training days.

This training consisted of gradually lengthening route marches, with meals cooked and eaten by the roadside, tent pitching and striking, and, at the halts, unloading and loading mules. Special attention was paid to boots, socks and feet, and a recipe was obtained for a foot powder which was well and worthily recommended by our M.O., that was to prove of inestimable value on the march. Tactical exercises, hill climbing and picqueting were also practised, not forgetting the possibility of an ambush, or a "Ghazi rush." When the date for our move came round it was felt that nothing now remained, except to test our training.

The arrangements for the march were drawn up by the Commanding Officer, down to the minutest detail; nothing was forgotten or left to "work itself out," as so often happens.

Each man had his complete kit wrapped up and tied in his blue rug; six men's kits went to one pack mule.

The arrangements for feeding were, to give the men gun-fire and a little food before moving off. The cooks went on in advance to the nearest suitable spot, about halfway, and when we arrived there we halted for breakfast. This arrangement worked well. It provided a welcome break, gave an opportunity for foot inspection, etc., allowed the column to make an early start, and break the back of the journey before the sun got hot. It also means that the breakfast is prepared and eaten in daylight, instead of scrambling about in the dark; and so on.

The routine on the march was, approximately, as follows:

Rouse $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours before marching off;

Strike tents and pack up at once;

Gun-fire $\frac{1}{2}$ hour before moving off;

Commence loading mules 15 minutes before moving off.

On arrival in camp:—

Unload kits and pitch tents at once;

Canteen open when camp was up;

Distribute kits;

Rifle inspection and medical inspection at 18.00;

Lights out 20.30.

The Regimental Contractor sent a branch of his coffee shop, etc., along with us, and we had minerals and beer at every camp.

An early start was always made, and undoubtedly is to be recommended.

Very few men fell out. At the breakfast halt "feet" inspection was held, and platoons carried antiseptic powder, which was applied in cases where the skin was broken.

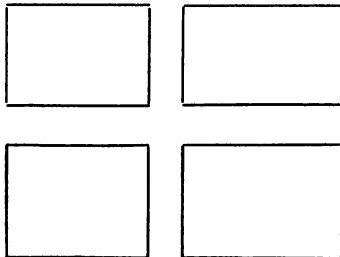
The transport moved between the two Companies; if cases of broken down or thrown loads were overtaken by the rear Company, sufficient men were dropped behind to deal with them, whilst the remainder moved on.

It was impressed upon the men that drinking water was very scarce on the route, and so the water-bottle was seldom resorted to.

Dusty sections of road were passed in "open fours," with generous distances between platoons.

On the march, as far as possible, carts were loaded up, and loads for mules (ammunition and tools) retied overnight.

One day's reserve ration was carried on the carts, whilst the men carried the emergency ration also. As most of the journey ran through country at least potentially hostile, and where the inhabitants are easily drawn by opportunity into theft, special safety precautions had to be taken to meet these conditions. On the march the usual advance and rear-guards sufficed, and where considered advisable the high ground on either side of the road was held until the column passed through. But it was whilst "at rest" that we had to be particularly careful, and the camp was arranged with this end in view. The camp was a square with two lanes running through and crossing in the centre, thus:—



All wagons were parked, and baggage stored in these lanes during the hours of darkness; Lewis guns and ammunition were placed where a sentry faced them the whole time. Sentries patrolled the outskirts of the camp, and it was arranged that there was always a sentry stationary at the entrance to each lane; these sentries were armed with Martini smooth bores and buckshot. Flying sentries, armed with a pick helve, moved amongst the wagons and baggage; no native was allowed inside the camp. These arrangements proved successful for the march.

We marched out from Quetta at 06.45 on June 8th to our first camp, Kuchlagh. The Commanding Officer came out and inspected the camp. Next day we went on to Khannai, where the narrow gauge railway to the Chrome Mines begins. This was a dirty, dusty camp, and the sanitary arrangements left much to be desired. On the 10th we marched to Metozai, along a sandy, heavy road; the day was rather cold, and this also was a camp we were glad to leave. Next day we had more dust, more cold and a soft road. Certain heights were picqueted until the column passed through. The next day, the 12th, we did not start until 09.30, as the Devons, whom we were to relieve at Hindubagh, did not want us in before 15.00. On this march we also picqueted heights, and this made the advance slow. We had breakfast before starting, and dinner on the march. The road dropped 1400 feet, and we felt appreciably warmer. We entered camp at 15.30, fairly tired, and sick of the dust and dirt. The average daily distance marched was about fifteen miles.

The camp was a group of tents, mostly "I. P. Privates," with barbed wire all round the camp. An examination of the camp did not cheer one up much, and as for the barbed wire—the only animal that could not walk through it was a camel. The men's latrines were the most awful arrangement ever seen, and to attempt to describe them would require more space than can be spared* and would not convey the correct impression; our M.O. soon had this remedied. The whole country was continually swept by dust storms, and it was difficult to feel clean; the men kept their hair very short here.

The camp was very compact. The few rifles belonging

* Agreed.—Ed.

to the cooks and sick that were not on parade during the day were collected and chained together to the tent poles in the store tent; a light-duty man took charge of these. At night all the rifles in one tent were similarly chained together, but Lewis guns were buried in the tent, and the Nos. 1 and 2 slept across them. The ammunition was kept in the guard tent, and the N.C.O. in charge slept on it. Platoons were told off to alarm posts, and allotted posts on the perimeter; we had one practice alarm.

A training scheme was duly put into operation, arranged so that during our stay in Hindubagh we should work through the whole of an infantry-man's field training, as we knew that towards the close the C.O. would come out and examine us. As few men as possible were left in camp, employ being cut down to a minimum. The "Reporting Sick" were seen by a relay, first by the C.-S.-M., next by the O.C. Company, then by the M.O.; they were often quite well before reaching the M.O.

The training went on from about 07.00 to 13.00, and an hour or two in the evening, daily. Then we held conferences, at which faults and features were discussed. It was interesting to watch the varied effect of training upon the men; but every potter expects a proportion to crack instead of hardening. The greatest possible benefit was derived from the excellent opportunities and the unlimited ammunition for field firing; as far as we know there were no casualties. And so the good work went on.

The C.O. arrived at 01.00 on 25th inst. and began his inspection at 06.00! Suffice it to say we shall know better next time.

The 26th inst. deserves a paragraph to itself. Both Companies did an attack on the hills, B Company to do a flanking movement. Apparently, some folks had their boots on the wrong feet; it was not a great show.

However, at the Sand Model Lecture by the C.O. in the evening, the wind was tempered to the shorn lamb, and we were made to feel that the man who never makes mistakes never makes anything.

Next day, the 27th, the C.O.'s Field Firing Schemes, or Competitions, took place, and we saw the reward of our previous labours, and the result of our omissions.

As we had gone for work, there is nothing to be written of Sport or Play; there was a stream of clear, cold water, and this was well patronised for bathing.

On the afternoon of the 27th we handed over the camp to the Devons, and pitched our 160lb. tents outside for the night.

We started back on the 28th; the journey back took the same time as the journey out, and was not quite as interesting; the number of dead camels passed was increased by one. Conditions were the same, but the men were harder, as the training had developed the possibles, and eliminated the few inefficient.

The C.O. met us, and led us back into barracks.

The reception accorded us made us wonder whether it would be another medal, or a bar.

Looking back one realises it was a valuable experience, and many lessons were learnt and facts ascertained.

One took note of the direction of the wind; he who hesitates as to which side of a dead camel to pass is lost.

Half a Battalion proceeding beyond the luxury of hot baths, brick houses and comfortable meals, does not need to be accompanied by half the staff of a Battalion in Barracks. We had our buglers and mule leaders living with their platoons; we hope they now realise that the former are not Battalion orchestra; nor the latter cavalry; the real business of life is getting a gun along, not riding to water and exercise.

We had not much control over the signallers. "Four men to pitch a 160lb. tent" does not apply to Kharnai, where the wind blows and the ground is stony.

The system of sending the breakfast on in advance won't work in the vicinity of an alert enemy, unless the car is armoured.

On the march and in camp one saw numbers of enormous dogs varying in colour from red to white; they appeared to live on dead camel. Nearly every one had its ears cut, as though from fighting. A certain number of long dogs were seen, but, judging from the poor exhibition given by eight dogs after one hare, there were no prospective Waterloo Cup winners amongst them; but dogs that bark at night are a nuisance, except one's own.

The gunfire meal should be less elaborate than eggs, butter, bread, tea; it takes too long to issue, and too long to dispose of.

One great disadvantage of packing up and loading in the dark is that the tying-up is not easily supervised; perhaps the only solution is to have special picked men tying up.

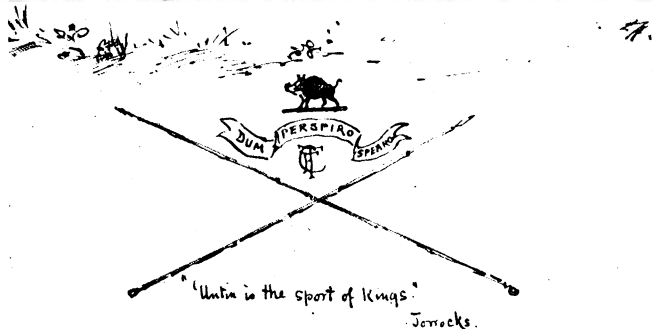
The great danger from sore feet on the march is that where the skin is broken the wound may turn septic; a good foot powder applied during the breakfast halt prevents this. Platoon Sergeants carried a supply.

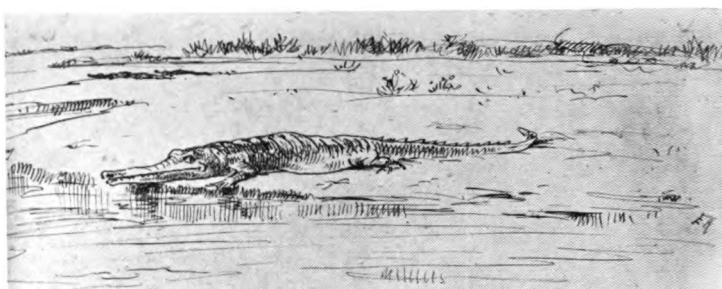
And now we are looking towards our next excursion, a brief one, but crowded we presume, and marking a further stage in the training of the Battalion.

PIG STORIES.

YE LAY O
YE
BAGGED PIG.

Perozepore 1882.





Y^e Lay of Y^e Bagged Pig.

a reminiscence of Terenggor. 1882.

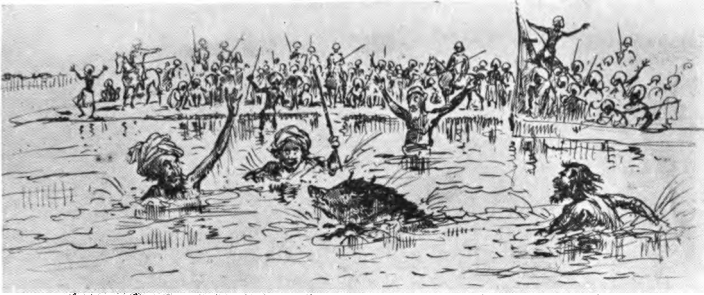


On a sandbank by the Sublej, where there's not a blade of grass
and the crocodiles lie basking in the sun,
There's a spot upon the river's brink I hardly ever pass,
without thinking where a certain pig was run.
How he legged it straight away when we turned him out at bay,
How he scattered all the coolies in his stride,
But we stuck him on the spot, and he caught it pretty hot
at the place where the bagged pig died.



There's his tusches on the mantelpiece, his tail upon the shelf,
And a better never rooled up the sod;
I recall whenever I see them how I came to grief myself,
for that day I got a cropper off my quod.
But at nothing did I stick, though the jungle was so thick,
at the nullahs like the devil did I ride,
And that blessed boar I stuck, as I chanced to be in luck,
at the place where the bagged pig died.





Was he wild? I hardly think it; was he bought? I cannot tell;
 We had gone for half the morning I should think,
 but the deuce a pig we'd met, until he ran into a net,
 So we turned him out upon the river's brink.
 Though I sometimes fancy too, that his daring spirit knew
 when he plunged into the foaming 'suttlej' tide,
 If he didn't try a swim it would be the worse for him
 at the place where the 'bagged pig' died.



He was out in half a minute, for he never got across
 As the Coolies were so eager for the 'dibs'.
 But when fairly on the open he was charged by man and horse
 and got tickled by a spear between the ribs.
 Then as motionless he lay on his cheerless bed of clay
 huddled up without an effort on his side,
 'Twas a hard and bitter stroke, for he got an ugly poke
 at the place where the 'bagged pig' died.





With a grunt so faint and feeble that it sounded like a moan
 "Dash my wig", he seemed to murmur, "ere I die".
 I just gave another prod at him, but found his breath had flown,
 so instead I stuck a pie dog standing by -
 Did I cause his spirit pain, if I swore I'd come again
 with a host of other "stickers" at my side,
 to the selfsame spot once more, to pursue the wily boar
 at the place where the bagged pig died.



I am very fond of bacon in an unimaged state
 It's the best of sport we get out in the east,
 And pig-sticking is a pastime one should never underrate
 Though the pig is called a most uncleanly beast.
 If a plucky boar you run, you will always get some fun
 and you'll find that like a fidd you've got to ride,
 and although I didn't right I must own that it was sport
 at the place where the bagged pig died.



FINIS.

FF.

THE DEATH OF SHADOO KHAN.

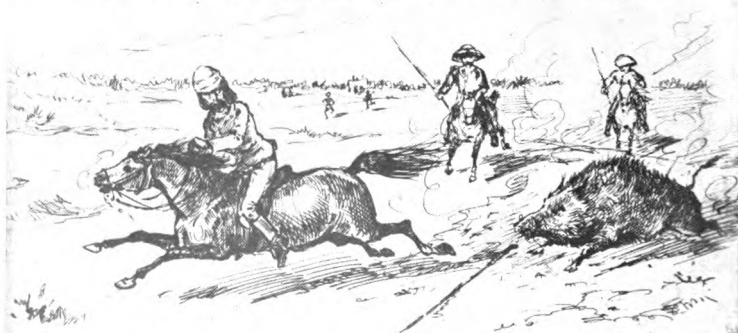




AT LAST, THE GREAT "SHADOO" PUTS IN AN APPEARANCE - GONE AWAY!!!



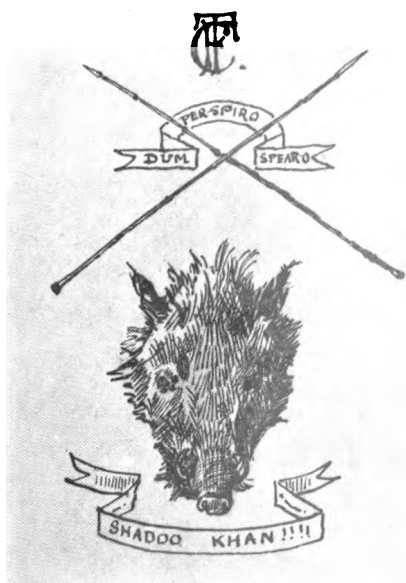
THE FAST SPEAR! SHADOO PRESENTS BEING PURSUED AND TORMENT! HE FEELS THE DEADLY STEEL! BLOOD!!!



SHADOO KETALATES! THE HUNTER, HUNTED!!!!



THE COUP DE GRACE. SHADDO DIES GAME - THE 'DOCTOR' SUFFERS - HADEY !!!



OFFICIAL TITLE OF THE REGIMENT

Upon the 9th December, 1920, an announcement appeared in the Press that a change in the Official Title of the Regiment had been approved and that in place of "The King's Royal Rifle Corps," it was in future to be called the "King's Royal Rifles." It was obvious that a misunderstanding had occurred and immediate steps were taken to rectify the mistake; but not in time to prevent the change appearing in the Army Orders for January.

The result was satisfactory, and upon the 8th February, 1921, FIELD-MARSHAL LORD GRENFELL received the following letter from the War Office, dated 2nd February, 1921:

"I am commanded by the Army Council to inform you that His Majesty has been pleased to approve of a reversion in the case of this Regiment to its previous Title, and that in future its Title will be 'The King's Royal Rifle Corps,' and the Army List abbreviation 'K.R.R.C.'"

(Signed) H. J. CREEDY, *Secretary*.

(In Army Orders for March, 1921.)

The unique and distinct Title, therefore, conferred upon the Regiment in 1880 by King William IV, has been confirmed by H.M. King George V., Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment. It will be remembered that this Title was originally granted upon the death of Field-Marshal H.R.H. the Duke of York, Commander-in-Chief of the Army and for 80 years Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment, in commemoration of the remarkable services of the 5th Battalion (Rifles) throughout the Peninsular War, 1808-1814, for which 16 Battle Honours have been awarded.

It is not too much to say that the Members, past and present, of the Regiment are in some measure to blame for the misunderstanding that took place. There has been an almost universal carelessness in the nomenclature adopted during the past forty years, and it is obviously necessary that in future everyone, concerned with the true interests of the Regiment, should be careful to refer to it, officially and otherwise, by its full and significant designation, or by its official abbreviation.

(Signed)

GRENFELL, FIELD-MARSHAL,

71, Eccleston Square,
London, S.W. 1.

*Senior Colonel Commandant,
The King's Royal Rifle Corps.*

28rd March, 1921.

INSTALLATION OF A REGIMENTAL COLOUR IN A CHURCH ON GOVERNOR'S ISLAND, NEW YORK CITY

January 9th, 1921

In 1918, F.-M. Lord Grenfell, our Senior Colonel-Commandant, received a letter from the Rev. Edward Banks Smith, D.D., the Military Chaplain, Headquarters Eastern Command, Governor's Island, in New York, stating that his Church, that of St. Cornelius, is the Garrison Chapel, and contains many military relics dating from the period when our Regiment (then known as The Royal American) was quartered in New York and attended Divine Service in the Church of Trinity Parish, which includes Governor's Island, and was founded under a Charter of William III. Dr. Banks Smith laid great stress on the connection, and mentioned several links still existing in Trinity Church which have survived the War of Independence, and still tend to unite his parish with the Mother Country. He therefore asked whether it would be possible for our Regiment to send a Colour for the purpose of being installed in the Garrison Chapel.

It will be readily understood that, with all the goodwill in the world, such a request was difficult to grant. Upwards of a century has elapsed since our Colours were discarded; and although it is quite possible that there may be others, those known by the writer to be in existence only comprised one of the old 4th Battalion in the possession of Sir Charles Prevost,* and a pair belonging to the original 1st (Bouquet's) Battalion left by the late Colonel Walter Holbech to his widow. It happened that Colonel Holbech was the owner of property in Canada, and while visiting it in January 1882, paid a visit to Vaudreuil, the residence of Colonel Harwood, A.G. of the Montreal District, who

* This Colour was carried by the Battalion at the defence of Savannah, 1779.

shewed him the Colours, which had been given to his wife, niece of the widow of Colonel Alexander Andrews, Commanding Officer of the Battalion at the time of its disbandment in 1819. Colonel Harwood, hearing that the 60th was Colonel Holbech's regiment, presented the Colours to him; and the latter, bringing them to England, renovated the silk decorations thereon, and utilised them as a drawing-room screen.

Mrs. Holbech having heard of Dr. Banks Smith's letter and our historic connection with the Parish in New York, most generously gave the Colours to an old Rifleman with full permission to send one to America.† The approval of Lord Grenfell was of course sought, and after submission to H.M. The King as Colonel-in-Chief, was readily given. The Regimental Colour was selected for the purpose, and was in due course forwarded to New York. Formality required that since St. Cornelius was merely a Chapel in the Parish of Trinity, New York, the gift should be made to the Rector (Dr. W. T. Manning) and Churchwardens of the Parish, although the Colour would actually hang in the Church of St. Cornelius.

The following covering letter was despatched therewith:—

“The Officers and Men of The King's Royal Rifle Corps have the honour to request that the accompanying Regimental Colour, which was presented in 1788 to the 1st Battalion under its original name of The Royal American Regiment, may be taken in charge by the Rector, Churchwardens and Vestrymen of Trinity Church, New York, and be deposited in the Church of St. Cornelius the Centurion, Governor's Island, in memory of the fact that Governor's Island was from 1756 to 1788 the Depot of the Regiment, and Trinity Church that in which the Officers and Men habitually worshipped.

“It is hoped also that this Colour may serve as a memento of the fact that The Royal American Regiment and the Regiments of New York fought shoulder to shoulder not only during the many years of warfare which ended in the conquest of New France and the subjugation of the Indian

† The King's Colour is still in his possession, and will be presented to the Regimental Museum whenever it is formed.

Tribes bordering on the Great Lakes, but also, after the lapse of a century and a half, against a common enemy in a more terrible European contest.

(Sgd.) **GRENFELL, *Field-Marshal*,**
Colonel Commandant, The King's Royal Rifle Corps."

The following reply from the Rector of Trinity Parish was in due course received by Lord Grenfell:—

"Trinity Parish, New York,
187, Fulton Street.
December 17, 1920.

My dear Lord Grenfell,

Your greatly valued communication through the Rev. Edmund Banks Smith, Vicar of the Chapel of St. Cornelius, Governor's Island, has reached us in regard to the Regimental Colour of The King's Royal Rifle Corps; and at the meeting recently held I brought the matter before our Vestry.

In my own name and that of the Vestry, I wish to express to your Lordship the great gratification we feel at the signal honour which you and the Officers and Men of The King's Royal Rifle Corps have done us in placing in our care this most important and interesting emblem which is so striking a witness of the relationship between our two countries. I am requested by the Vestry to forward to you the enclosed resolution which was unanimously adopted, and which expresses only very imperfectly our appreciation of your action in presenting to us the Colour of your historic Regiment.

It is our purpose to make the formal acceptance of this Flag, and its installation at the Chapel of St. Cornelius an occasion of great interest to the public as well as to our Parish.

With high regard, I am,
Yours very truly,
(Sgd.) **WILLIAM T. MANNING."**

RESOLUTION OF THE VESTRY.

"The Rector laid before the Vestry a communication from the Right Honourable Lord Grenfell, Field-Marshal,

Senior Colonel Commandant, King's Royal Rifles, stating that the Officers and Men of The King's Royal Rifle Corps desire to place in the keeping of the Rector, Churchwardens and Vestrymen of Trinity Church the Regimental Colour which was presented to the 1st Battalion in 1788 under its original name of The Royal American Regiment; and that the gift is made in memory of the fact that Governor's Island was from 1756 to 1788 the Depot of the Regiment, and Trinity Church that in which its Officers and Men habitually worshipped.

"It was therefore resolved that the Rector, Churchwardens and Vestrymen accept with great gratification the Regimental Colour placed in their care, and that the Rector be requested to assure Lord Grenfell and the Officers and Men of The King's Royal Rifle Corps that this historic Regimental Colour is received with the deepest appreciation and that it will be preserved and valued by us, not only as a reminder of the past, but also as a symbol of these present close ties of fellowship between America and Great Britain, which have been strengthened by our association in the recent struggle for justice and liberty, and which we pray may continue through all the future."

2.

The ceremony of installation took place on January 9th last, the 1st Sunday after the Epiphany, in the presence of a large and distinguished company. Invitations had been sent to His Majesty the King, to the British Ambassador, the Colonels Commandant of our Regiment, the Members of the "Celer et Audax" Club, General R. E. Bullard, Commanding Eastern District, New York, and many other American notabilities. It was unfortunately found impossible to send a representative of the Regiment from England.

"A unique and impressive ceremony," says an American newspaper, "was held on the 9th, when a Regimental Colour of The King's Royal Rifle Corps, originally The Royal American Regiment, was presented to the Rector, Churchwardens, etc., of Trinity Church by the Officers and Men of the Corps."

At 8 p.m. a specially selected detachment of the 22nd

United States Infantry proceeded to the Chaplain's quarters and received from him the Colour. As he handed it over, the detachment presented arms, the buglers sounded a fanfare, and the Colour party escorted it to the Chapel, while the spectators, 2000 in number, stood bare-headed. In the procession the Colour was flanked by the American National Ensign and the Flag of the 22nd Infantry Regiment.

Seats were provided in the Chapel for the Commanding General and his guests, including Major-General Bethell, representing the British Ambassador, and Lord Carisbrook, visiting officers of the Army and Navy, Trinity Corporation, descendants of officers of The Royal American Regiment, representatives of patriotic and military societies, etc., etc.

The three Flags were then met at the west door by the Rector, Vestry, Clergy and Choir, and escorted up the nave, while the hymn "The Son of God goes forth to war" was sung by the choir and congregation. A shortened form of Evensong was then said by Dr. Banks Smith, including a special Bidding Prayer which, after invoking prayer for the rulers of the United States, mentioned the name of His Majesty the King, and offered praise "especially for those who have given their lives in defence of country, and for departed members of The Royal American Regiment and The King's Royal Rifle Corps who, having finished their course in faith, do now rest from their labours."

The Deed of Gift recited above was then read, and in the absence of a Rifle Officer the least remote link with the Regiment available for the purpose was Mr. Emile Hart, descendant of an officer associated with Lord Amherst, our sometime Colonel-in-Chief.

Mr. Hart was consequently charged with the actual presentation, which he performed, handing the Colour with a few appropriate words to Dr. Manning, by whom it was carried to the high altar and solemnly blessed. It was then hung in a place of highest honour over the altar on the south side, while the choir and congregation, supported by the organ and the band of the 22nd U.S. Infantry, sang with thrilling effect, "O God, our help in ages past." This was followed by the British and American National Anthems.

The benediction having been pronounced, further hymns were sung;* and as a voluntary the band played John Reid's "March of the 1st Battalion, 60th Regiment," composed in 1780 and dedicated to Lady Amherst. It was much admired, and compared in melody and harmony with the music of Handel. The score of this march is given in the *Annals of The K.R.R.C.*, Vol. I, p. 841.

8.

Immediately prior to the service, as Dr. Banks Smith was proceeding to the vestry, a cablegram had been handed to him, which proved to be a gracious message from the King in the following terms:—

"The King highly appreciates invitation and hopes the ceremony may further strengthen ties of friendship between British and American armies. Rifles all ranks with you in spirit.

FIELD-MARSHAL LORD GRENFELL."

Lord Grenfell had taken the greatest trouble to ensure the timely arrival of this cablegram; and when the unexpected message was read out during the service the effect upon those present was electrical. The invitation to His Majesty had been sent as a formal compliment to our Colonel-in-Chief, and the kind and inspiring response was enormously appreciated as being a compliment not only to those in the Church, but also to a wide circle beyond.

4.

It will be felt by the whole Regiment, past and present, that the service and the arrangements were worthy of the occasion. The linking up of the old connection between Trinity Parish and the Regiment was one not only of historic interest, but highly gratifying to ourselves, as shewing that although for a century and a half "out of sight" we had not been "out of mind." It will also be realised that no

* A stanza of one ran:—

"Two Empires by the sea,
Two nations great and free,
One Anthem raise.
One race of ancient fame,
One tongue, one faith we claim,
One God, whose glorious Name
We love and praise."

detail was omitted which could do honour to our Corps and to our Country.

The following letter was afterwards sent by the "Celer et Audax" Club:—

"The Members of the 'Celer et Audax' Club desire to convey to Dr. Banks Smith their best thanks for sending them the Form of Service used on the occasion of the installation of their old Regimental Colour in the Church of St. Cornelius the Centurion, Governor's Island, New York, on January 9th, the 1st Sunday after the Epiphany.

"They highly appreciate the honour done to their Regiment in the ceremony observed on this occasion, and are especially touched at the most kind references in the Bidding Prayer to the members of it who fell in the War.

"They are equally glad to recall the fact that the motto of their Club was awarded to the Regiment when fighting with American troops against a common enemy. They are gratified to know that this early connection is still recollected in the United States not less than in England, and hope that on both sides of the Atlantic the tradition may be cherished for time immemorial."

REGIMENTAL STORIES OF HALF A CENTURY AGO

**Taken mostly from the Battalion Lie Books
and other veracious sources**

1. In the whole of our Regiment there was no more lovable character than Friday Fraser. Kind hearted almost to a fault, unselfish and very amusing, it would have been impossible for him to have an enemy in the world; and that charm of character was added to rather than otherwise by his little eccentricities. Always ready to take a different view of a subject to that of anyone else, in power of contradiction he was hardly surpassed even by Redvers Buller. In playing whist, which was the game in those ante-bridge days, his great object was, as he expressed it, "to suck in his partner"; and it is remarkable that despite his success in this particular he nearly always won the game, of which, however, he knew little or nothing. He had a horse who was his master rather than his servant. He used to visit the horse in his stables and say, "Ah, you brute, do you think I am going to ride you to-day? I will — well suck you in."

When his Battalion was in Canada it was invited to dinner by the 78th Highlanders, and a festive evening ensued. The Highlanders were commanded by an officer with a shrill falsetto voice; and towards the end of dinner Friday, who was then an Ensign, celebrated the occasion by getting on to the dining room table and making a speech, mimicking the tones of this Colonel. His brother officers hastily pulled him down, but in trying to retain his position he seized hold of the candelabras and brought them down with him.

Later in the evening the Highlanders became rather boastful, and informed the Rifle officers that they had beaten them at cricket and racquets and every other game—

which was true—and that they could beat them at everything else. The challenge was at once accepted by Jack Young, who informed the 78th that we could beat them in drinking champagne. It was settled that the test should be the quaffing at one draught of a whole bottle of champagne out of a silver cup; and as the Highlanders considered their capacity in this respect a particularly strong point, they readily accepted the challenge. But Young had got a card up his sleeve. There was present a young Ensign recently joined, one of the Mitchell Innes family, which could always put away its fair share of liquid. Young Mitchell Innes, who had hitherto been too shy either to talk or to drink, was called to the front and given the task, which he executed without the slightest difficulty. Each Highland officer made the attempt in turn, but none succeeded, and the Riflemen quitted their hosts in triumph.

To return to Friday Fraser. In later years he got the Brevet of Major in a Zulu War and the Brevet of Lieutenant-Colonel in Egypt. To the day of his death, which occurred some fifteen years ago, he was the same cheery, good fellow, and few were more missed when he left the Regiment.

2. In 1878 a cricket match took place between the 1st and 3rd Battalions at Aldershot, where the latter was stationed. Both sides were strong; but the captain of the 1st Battalion was N. W. Wallace, who had played County cricket and was in magnificent form that year. By the misfortune of war it so happened that he not only got a pair of spectacles but missed two easy catches. How many other catches were missed by the 1st Battalion it is difficult to remember; but at last they got the 3rd Battalion—captained by F. V. Northey—out for 237, themselves losing at the end of the day two wickets for about 17 runs.

During the course of the subsequent night Jeffy Davies, who was staying in a hut with Colonel Pemberton, took the opportunity to set it on fire, and succeeded in extinguishing it at the cost of a burnt hand. Notwithstanding this disadvantage, he made a splendid innings next day of 69, and being well backed up by others, the 1st Battalion reached a total of 224. In the second innings the 3rd Battalion were cheaply dismissed, and the 1st put in to make only 111, which seemed a certainty, as the best bowler of the 3rd

Battalion had been obliged to go away to keep a previous engagement. But a Private Rifleman named Thorn, afterwards groundman at St. Cross, being put on to bowl as a last resource, bowled the whole side out for 44.

3. Talking of Jeffy Davies, he and Joe Henley had a remarkable adventure in Canada. They started for a hunting expedition, carrying with them their luggage, which consisted solely of whiskey. After a few days they returned, having drunk up their luggage without having had any great sport, but stating that they had been driven back by the flies, which, they said, were so thick that Jeffy was able to write his name distinctly in them, while Joe Henley's experience was if possible even more remarkable, for having taken shelter under a large iron coal box (how it got there is not stated), the flies lifted it bodily from the ground. The brand of whiskey must have been much stronger than in these degenerate days.

4. During the time that the 1st Battalion was at the Tower in 1864 three of the officers went to a music hall, and took the stage box. Feeling the want of a little rational amusement, they took the opportunity to let down the curtain in the midst of the performance. The management and audience were not unnaturally annoyed. The Manager came up in a fury; but one of the trio (happily still with us) engaged him in a bout of fisticuffs on the stage. The next one acted as second: while the third sang comic songs. The result was that peace was restored, and officers and management adjourned to a friendly supper; thus terminating a most attractive and intellectual evening's amusement.

THE BINGOES

There were two Binges in the Regiment: Bingo père and Bingo fils.

Bingo père looked magnificent on horseback. In other military qualities he was less conspicuous. In fact it is hardly too much to say that what he did not know about his profession would fill a big book. That his courage was, however, undeniable goes of course without saying. He fought at Mooltan and Goojerat. In the subsequent campaign against the Afreedis he was badly wounded, and naturally enough called his friends for help, explaining loudly and with wealth of detail the fate which he anticipated in the event of being left to fall into the enemy's hands.

In due course Bingo commanded a battalion, and his lack of professional knowledge became a hindrance both in the field and in the Orderly Room. When men were brought up for misconduct he would express his intention of maintaining discipline in fluent language. "I'll make you hop, my young bird," was a favourite expression. But the consequent punishment awarded was often found to exceed the powers of a C.O. He would then modify it, and eliminate the original entry in the Guard Report by moistening his thumb and using it as an ink eraser. The marks of Bingo's thumb were perhaps the most permanent monument of his period of command.

On parade he would rebuke the officers without ceremony. "Take your ugly face out of the way, Mr. —, and don't spoil the dressing of the line." The officer thus apostrophised would make a formal complaint in the Orderly Room. "Ah, now Mr. —, you know I didn't mean it." But Mr. — explained that great violence had been done to his sensitive feelings, which nothing less than ten days' leave could expiate, and held the leave book before his C.O. till Bingo found himself compelled to surrender at discretion.

It is said that on one occasion at a Brigade parade he marched his battalion through another regiment because

he did not know how to stop it. Happily the regiment concerned took it very well, with the remark that "it was only old Bingo." At Light Drill he would tell his bugler to "sound a Field Day," giving him in fact direction of the whole proceedings. Unfortunately, H.R.H. The Duke of Cambridge came one day to inspect the battalion in the Field Day, and strongly objected to the bugler taking charge. This led to Bingo's retirement.

Meanwhile his hopeful son had joined the battalion. His life was not altogether happy, for his father failed to pay his allowance and placed him in arrest for not paying his mess bill. Their relations do not appear to have been of the most affectionate nature. At all events when Bingo père departed this life his dutiful son announced the fact in the ante-room by remarking that "the poor old governor has turned up his toes at last."

Bingo fils knew his work very well, although not always able to ensure respect. He was kind, genial and hospitable; in fact his sociable nature sometimes betrayed him. He married a charming young lady, and though he habitually referred to her as "the poor little divil," the marriage was a very happy one. It was customary for all the officers of the battalion to be present at the Christmas dinner in mess. Unluckily on one occasion the coffee was unnecessarily strong, and "when the clock struck the hour for retiring," Bingo was in no condition to walk home unaided. Two of his brother officers therefore escorted him to his front door, propped him up against it, rang the bell and modestly retired. The door was opened by "the poor little divil," and to her dismay and horror in fell prostrate the inanimate form of her husband, while she shouted for the soldier servant, who, recognising the symptoms, hastened to allay her alarm. It so happened that on a recent occasion Bingo had found his servant in a similar condition, and offered him the alternative of being taken before the C.O. or of dealing with him himself. The latter course having been chosen, Bingo put the servant's head under the pump and used the handle with such vigour that all vacancies in the man's body were quickly filled up with cold water, and sobriety returned. It was inevitable that the servant unhesitatingly put into practice the treatment which had

proved so successful in his own case; and truth to tell the result proved equally happy.

The year passed away. Christmas came again, but it was only after repeated entreaties and assurances that Mrs. Bingo consented to her husband's presence at the dinner. As ill fate had it, her forebodings were more than justified. Bingo was the life and soul of the party until about midnight he fell on the floor, even more inanimate, if possible, than on the previous occasion. In vain was salt water poured down his throat; in vain was every remedy that the zeal and experience of the Subalterns could suggest. The position was doubly serious, for no one dared to repeat the last year's procedure by conducting Bingo to his happy home. At length, with the courage of despair, two officers undertook to call on Mrs. Bingo and inform her that her husband had caught a severe catarrh, and that it was felt impossible to expose him to the freezing night air. That the lady's acquiescence in the improbable tale was obviously assumed. History does not relate what happened at the meeting of husband and wife next morning; but henceforth Bingo's Christmas dinners with his brother officers were fond reminiscences of the past.

THE REGIMENTAL DINNER

Owing to the Coal Strike it was considered inadvisable to hold the Annual Regimental Dinner on the usual date; it was accordingly postponed until Thursday, July 7th, when a large gathering of officers assembled at the Victoria Hotel, Northumberland Avenue.

His Royal Highness Prince Henry was the guest of the evening and amongst those present were Field-Marshal Lord Grenfell, Lieut.-Generals Sir Edward Hutton and Sir William Pitcairn Campbell, Major-Generals R. S. Fetherstonhaugh, Sir J. H. Davidson, the Hon. Sir A. R. Montagu-Stuart-Wortley, the Hon. E. J. Montagu-Stuart-Wortley, C. R. R. McGrigor, C. A. Blacklock; Brig.-Generals W. S. Kays and R. S. Oxley, Colonel the Duke of Somerset, Major Lord Leopold Mountbatten.

At the conclusion of the Dinner, which was in every way excellent, Lord Grenfell proposed "The health of The King, The Queen and the Members of the Royal Family" in his usual happily-worded manner. Prince Henry responded in an admirable and tactful little speech, saying that he came there with great trepidation as he felt something like a traitor for changing his "Greenjacket" in favour of an "Hussar jacket"; at the same time he wished to assure those present that the fault was not his, for there was no keener Rifleman than he was when he got his commission. It was a great blow to him not being able to join one of the Battalions either at Home or Abroad because he knew how happy he would have been amongst them. He would always remember with pride that he not only was a member of the "Celer et Audax" Club, but remained so still, as being once a Rifleman he was always a Rifleman. He would always take the greatest interest in the doings of the Regiment which he knew as time went on would only add more fame to its name.

Lieut.-General Sir Edward Hutton then proposed "The health of the Past and Present Officers," Colonel Willoughby Wallace responding for the former and Colonel Green for the latter. This brought the proceedings to a close and everyone agreed that it had been a delightful Reunion, chiefly due to the excellence of the Dinner and the brevity of the speeches.

GREENJACKET CRICKET, 1921

Results—Played, 16; won, 6; lost, 1; drawn, 8; tie, 1.

A glance at the above figures is sufficient proof that the past season has been a success. Had two Battalions of each Regiment not been quartered in Ireland throughout the summer, the teams for 1921 would probably have been stronger than for many a past season, seeing that there are now no less than nine County players in the Club, besides another fifteen or twenty who could certainly be selected for any Greenjacket team. As it was there was often great difficulty in getting together a truly representative XI.

However, for the week, several players from Ireland were able to get leave and the teams for the I Zingari and Free Foresters Matches were fully representative. In the Inter-Regimental Match the K.R.R.C. were unfortunately not able to raise a team which was entirely composed of present officers (on account of the 1st Battalion, at Ballykinlar, not having had any chance to practise, and officers at the Staff College being unable to get away), and several past members were included in the XI and gave invaluable assistance. The Rifle Brigade were considerably stronger in bowling, having both Earle and Gore, and won by nine wickets.

The weather throughout the season has been perfect.

The wins were against the Household Brigade, Incogniti, Winchester City, Free Foresters, Hampshire Hogs, the Hampshire Regiment (Past and Present). We lost to Harrow Wanderers and tied with Aldershot Command.

Major H. S. Altham easily heads the list of batsmen with the fine average of 84.8 for 10 innings, his highest score being 170. M. F. Buller has an average of 41 for 18 innings.

In bowling (over 100 overs) Lieut.-Colonel Shawe and Captain Earle have averages of 15 each.

Full score of the week:—

MONDAY AND TUESDAY, JULY 11TH AND 12TH.

GREENJACKETS v. I ZINGARI.

GREENJACKETS.

M. F. Buller (late R.B.), c Lambton, b Metcalfe	...	28
Capt. H. G. Moore-Gwyn (R.B.), c sub., b Metcalfe	...	21
A. J. T. McGaw (R.B.), b Wilson	...	29
C. G. T. Stevens (R.B.), b Wilson	...	15
Major A. H. Altham (late K.R.R.C.), c McDonell, b Wilson	170	
Capt. E. F. Campbell (K.R.R.C.), c Nicholson, b Clarke	...	73
Capt. G. F. Earle (R.B.), c Turner, b McDonell	...	20
Major A. J. H. Sloggett (R.B.), did not bat.		
Major H. L. Riley (R.B.), not out	...	23
C. J. Eyston (R.B.), did not bat.		
Major D. E. Prideaux-Brune (R.B.), did not bat.		
Extras	...	19
Total (for 7 wickets)	...	398

I ZINGARI.

	1st innings.	2nd innings.
C. W. Turner, c M.-Gwyn, b Stevens	... 23	b M.-Gwyn ... 10
O. T. Norris, c P.-Brune, b Altham	... 56	b Stevens ... 79
T. E. M. Battersby, c M.-Gwyn, b Earle	14	b Earle ... 7
C. W. Nicholson, b Earle	... 1	not out ... 6
E. R. Wilson, c Campbell, b M.-Gwyn	62	c Buller, b M.-Gwyn 66
H. C. McDonell, b M.-Gwyn	... 30	c and b Earle ... 60
Hon. J. Tufton, b M.-Gwyn	... 1	b Altham ... 56
C. Clarke, c Buller, b M.-Gwyn	... 17	c Buller, b Earle ... 2
E. J. Metcalfe, c Buller, b McGaw	... 0	lbw, b M.-Gwyn ... 0
Major R. O. Bridgeman, c Altham,		
b M.-Gwyn	... 12	b M.-Gwyn ... 2
Hon. Claude Lambton, not out	... 10	b Earle ... 9
Extras	... 10	Extras ... 5
Total	... 286	Total ... 302

Umpires—Barber and Freemantle.

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, JULY 13TH AND 14TH.

THE KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS v. THE RIFLE BRIGADE.

K.R.R.C.	1st innings.	2nd innings.
Capt. E. Campbell, c Gore, b Shaw	... 27	b Gore ... 5
Lt.-Col. G. A. Soltan-Symons, c Gore,		
b Earle	... 4	c Eyston, b Earle ... 16
Lt.-Col. A. I. Paine, st Curtis, b M.-Gwyn	44	b Gore ... 0
Major A. H. Altham, lbw, b Gore	168	b Shawe ... 29
C. Wilson, c Earle, b Gore	... 4	b Shawe ... 1
Major G. Campbell, c McGaw, b Shawe	32	c M.-Gwyn, b Shawe 86

Lt.-Col. B. J. Curling, b Earle ...	7	c and b Earle ...	22
Capt. G. Cresswell-Wall, b Earle ...	0	c Curtis, b Earle ...	6
Capt. C. T. Ellison, c Stevens, b Earle ...	6	b Shawe ...	10
R. Bewicke-Copley, c Curtis, b Earle ...	8	c Curtis, b Earle ...	23
C. White, b Earle ...	0	not out ...	7
C. Chevis, not out ...	0	b Earle ...	2
Extras ...	6	Extras ...	14
Total ...	306	Total ...	171

RIFLE BRIGADE.		1st innings.	2nd innings.
Capt. H. Moore-Gwyn, b White ...	27		
C. J. Eyston, b White ...	30	not out ...	7
Lt.-Col. Shawe, b Chevis ...	28		
C. G. T. Stevens, b Curling ...	44		
A. J. T. McGaw, c Ellison, b Chevis ...	116		
Capt. G. F. Earle, c C.-Wall, b Curling ...	88	not out ...	9
Major H. L. Riley, b Chevis ...	12		
Major A. J. H. Sloggett, b G. Campbell ...	28		
Major D. Prideaux-Brune, not out ...	28	c Ellison, b White ...	4
Capt. P. Curtis, b G. Campbell ...	0		
Major R. O. Bridgeman, c C.-Wall, b White ...	18		
A. C. Gore, c Chevis, b White ...	0	b White ...	2
Extras ...	82	Extras ...	12
Total ...	446	Total ...	84

Umpires—Barber and Freemantle.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, JULY 15TH AND 16TH.

GREENJACKETS v. FREE FORESTERS.

GREENJACKETS.		1st innings.	2nd innings.
Capt. H. G. Moore-Gwyn (R.B.), b Graves	66		
A. J. T. McGaw (R.B.), c and b Graves	61		
C. G. B. Stevens (R.B.), c Druce, b Graves	8		
Lord Gorell (late R.B.), b Graves ...	0	b Priestley ...	5
Capt. T. O. Jameson (R.B.), c Payne, b Priestley ...	6	c Battersby, b Priestley ...	32
Capt. G. F. Earle (late R.B.), b Graves	14	not out ...	1
Capt. E. R. Wilson (late R.B.), lbw, b Priestley ...	4	not out ...	6
Lt.-Col. C. Shawe (late R.B.), c Priestley, b Graves ...	15		
Major A. J. H. Sloggett (R.B.), c Priestley, b Whitcombe ...	20		
Major H. L. Riley (R.B.), c and b Whitcomb ...	28		
C. J. Wilson (K.R.R.C.), b Whitcombe	12	st Nicholson, b Priestley ...	11
A. C. Gore (R.B.), not out ...	14	b Graves ...	0
Extras ...	24	Extras ...	1
Total ...	267	Total ...	56

FREE FORESTERS.		1st innings.	2nd innings.
Col. A. C. Johnston, not out	...	30	c Shawe, b Jameson 26
Lt.-Col. R. M. T. Gillson, c	Gorell, b		
Earle	...	0	b Gore ... 15
Capt. T. E. M. Battersby, c	Jameson,		
b Earle	...	7	st Gorell, b Wilson 11
Major J. K. Ireland, retired hurt	...	7	b Wilson ... 21
C. J. Eyston, b Earle	...	12	hit wicket, b Gore 0
M. W. Payne, c Riley, b Shawe	...	24	lbw, b Wilson ... 5
H. W. Priestley, b Earle	...	27	not out ... 24
W. G. Druce, b Earle	...	4	c McGaw, b Gore ... 15
Capt. R. S. Whitcombe, c Gorell, b	Earle	1	lbw, b Gore ... 0
D. J. C. Glass, c Wilson, b Earle	...	4	b Gore ... 5
W. O. Nicholson, b Earle	...	0	st Gorell, b Shawe ... 0
C. G. Graves, b Earle	...	10	b Gore ... 44
Extras	...	14	Extras ... 12
Total		140	Total ... 178

Umpires—Barber and Freemantle.

That a season has been successful is not entirely due to the fact that the majority of matches have been won or even resulted in a good game, but it means that the arrangements generally have been carefully planned and that the choosing and the preparation of the wickets have been in the hands of those who know their job.

Major Russell is once more to be thanked and congratulated for his able arrangements, and Freemantle is to be credited with having provided the best of wickets throughout a season of continued drought.

Let us hope that the summer of 1922 will find more members of the club within easy reach of St. Cross, and a record season could then be confidently looked forward to.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Greenjackets Club, held at St. Cross on July 18th, the Chairman, Lieut.-General Sir Edward Hutton, spoke in most eulogistic terms of the services Major Leonard Russell had rendered to the Greenjackets during the 28 years that he had carried out the duties of Hon. Secretary. In fact it may be said that the success of the Greenjackets Club in promoting cricket and the good fellowship which has been such an important and significant result among the members of both Regiments is due to the admirable management and happy tact of Major Russell.

The work entailed upon the Hon. Secretary by undertaking the arrangements for the luncheons at Race Meetings and Cricket events is especially arduous, and merits the most cordial thanks and appreciation of all members, past and present, and their families.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES, 1921

On April 29th Field-Marshal Lord Grenfell, our Senior Colonel Commandant, reached his 80th birthday.

The following telegram was sent to him from Lieut.-General Sir Edward Hutton, which ably expresses the sentiments of the Regiment towards the gallant Field-Marshal:—

“ 18, Gloucester Place,
“ London,

“ Field-Marshal Lord Grenfell, “ April 29th.

“ As Senior Serving Rifleman of the beloved Regiment, I send you our heartiest congratulations upon your 80th birthday, and in doing so beg to assure you of our intense admiration for your career, of our continuous respect for your high position, and of our abiding affection for your personality.

“ LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR EDWARD HUTTON,
“ Colonel Commandant,
“ The King's Royal Rifle Corps.”

The following reply was received:—

“ General Sir Edward Hutton, “ Fox Hills, Chertsey.

“ Many thanks for your telegram. The appreciation of the Regiment in which I have now served for sixty-two years is the highest honour I could receive.

“ GRENFELL.”

In response to an appeal from the Pilgrim Fathers Association for funds in order that the Regiment might be represented in the Memorial to America's Unknown Warrior, the following letter was sent to the Secretary of the Association by Lieut.-General Sir Edward Hutton, K.C.B., K.C.M.G.:—

“ 56, Eaton Square, W. 1,

“ Dear Sir, “ October 14th, 1921.

“ I have to-day received your circular letter regarding a ‘small donation’ towards the expenses for a Memorial

to 'America's Unknown Warrior,' which your Council is arranging.

"By desire of Field-Marshal Lord Grenfell, Chairman of the Celer et Audax Club and Senior Colonel Commandant, I forward herewith ten guineas as the contribution from all ranks of The King's Royal Rifle Corps.

"Mindful of its origin and its early history as the 60th Royal Americans, the Regiment is especially gratified at the opportunity of confirming its old connection with the United States of America, and of expressing our unbounded admiration for our comrades of the United States Army, who shared our victories during the recent Great War.

"I am further desired to ask the acceptance by your Society of a copy of the *Brief History of The King's Royal Rifle Corps*, which establishes the facts of its origin and close connection with the Eastern States of America together with its early history from 1755 to 1824 as the 60th Royal Americans.

"I remain, Sir,

"Yours very faithfully,

"EDWARD T. H. HUTTON, *Lieut.-General*,

"Colonel Commandant, The King's Royal Rifle Corps,
and Hon. Treasurer, Celer et Audax Club."

Owing to the Coal Strike and the trouble in Ireland the Annual Regimental Point-to-Point Races did not take place. It was also decided not to hold the Veterans' Association Dinner.

We are greatly indebted to Lieut.-General Sir Edward Hutton and Major-General R. Fetherstonhaugh for their most liberal donation of £100 each towards the Funds of the *Regimental Chronicle*. Owing to their generosity and the assistance received from the "Celer et Audax" Club and the Commanding Officers of Battalions, the financial position of the *Chronicle* is now in a sound position.

It may interest our readers to know that that good sportsman, Hugo Watson, was elected Master of the Staff College Drag Hounds in January, 1921.



COLONEL NORTH.

He took over ten couple of hounds from Lieut.-Colonel Geoffrey Brooke, 16th Lancers, in mid-season, and although the country was strange to Master, Whips and Secretary, they were able to show good sport, thanks to the excellent feeling re-established with the farmers.

In addition to Drag Hunting they had several bye-days after the fox, by permission of the Master of the Garth, in the country round Aldershot, and killed $6\frac{1}{2}$ brace in the season 1920-21.

Amongst those names of Officers who in former years helped to carry on the good work of the Staff College Drag Hounds are Sir Redvers Buller and Sir Edward Hutton, who were elected Pt. Whip and Acting Master in 1872-73 and 1879-80 respectively. There was at that period a permanent Master and Secretary, Lieut.-Colonel Langford-Leix, afterwards General Langford-Leix-Carleton, a Professor at the Royal Military College, and a rare fine sportsman, who kindly performed this congenial duty for fifteen years.

Brig.-General H. Mends, C.B., had four water-colours exhibited in the Piccadilly Gallery and other exhibitions this year and was awarded a Silver Medal.

At a recent sale the Medal of Lieut. De Gilse with eight clasps was sold for £29. 8s. This officer was formerly Adjutant of the 5th Battalion from 1806 to 1811. The Clasps were awarded for Rolica Vimieiro, Talavera, Bussaco, Fuentes d'Onoro, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz and Salamanca.

The portrait on the opposite page may be of interest to past and present Riflemen, and presents a good example of the uniform of the Regiment at that period.

Colonel North joined the 60th in 1842, and served at Mooltan, Goojerat, and the subsequent operations 1848-9. Later he served as a Staff Officer in 1857 with Havelock's Force which relieved Lucknow, and was afterwards besieged therein, until relieved by Lord Clyde. He was mentioned in despatches and promoted Brevet Colonel, retiring as Senior Major in 1867.

Colonel North saw most of his service with the 1st Battalion.

THE RIFLEMEN'S AID SOCIETY

Report of the Executive Committee for 1921.

The year ending 31st December, 1921, has been one of continued activity similar to that described in the Annual Report for the year previous, and there has even been a still further increase in the scope and work of the Society.

The trade depression which was making itself felt in 1920 continued in 1921, and during the last six months had reached a very acute stage. Skilled workers and reliable men who had never previously known what it was to be out of employment, have been, in numerous cases, with great reluctance on the part of their employers, placed first on short time and finally on the unemployed list. Heavy demands have consequently been made upon the Society for financial assistance, so that in the last six months the Society has had to deal with as many cases under this heading as they had during the whole of the year 1920.

II.

Cases of Advice, Employment, Pecuniary Assistance, etc., dealt with.—The total number of cases dealt with by the Society was 4258, an increase of 626 over the number dealt with in the previous year, and an almost sevenfold increase on the numbers dealt with annually prior to the removal of the Headquarters to London.

III.

Employment.—The applications for employment during the year were as follows:—

		K.R.R.C.		R.B.
Number of applications	...	348	...	323
Employment found for	...	97	...	82

The greatest difficulty is still experienced in finding suitable employment for many of the men owing to the unprecedented trade depression and the fact that the vast majority of the men belong to the unskilled labour class. The contributory cause of unemployment mentioned in the last annual report is rapidly disappearing, and the men are realising that employers can only pay a man what he is actually worth. Large numbers of situations were offered for which suitable men could not be found.

Many of the skilled men who were out of employment in the latter part of the year are now gradually being taken on

in their old jobs as opportunity offers, and your Committee are glad to be able to report that their representations to employers, on behalf of men of this description and possessing special claims, have received sympathetic and favourable consideration.

The figures given above do not, however, represent the actual number of those who have obtained employment, as in many cases, although not able to place men directly, the Society has been instrumental in getting them in touch with other bodies, through whom employment has been obtained. Every use continues to be made of the Government Employment Agencies and of the voluntary organisations dealing with employment.

In addition, your Committee has assisted men to become self-supporting by making grants and loans for the purchase of instruments, tools, stock, etc.

IV.

Pecuniary Assistance.—During the year the following applications for temporary financial assistance were investigated and dealt with as stated:—

(a) Donations.			Applications		Number granted		Amount granted
K.R.R.C.	...	...	1060	...	681	...	£1760
R.B.	...	...	1027	...	629	...	£1485

The amounts granted include payments for men taking courses of instruction or business training, school fees and outfits for children, additional maintenance grants for men earning a nominal wage during training or while on "short time," relief during times of distress, relief during times of sickness, convalescence for men or their families, grants for tools to enable men to start training, railway fares and clothing to enable men to take up situations, etc., etc.

The applications in 777 cases were otherwise dealt with.

Letters of recommendation for the Royal Surgical Aid Society, and letters of admission to Hospitals have been received from officers and friends of both Regiments, who are subscribers to these institutions, and have been of the greatest possible assistance, as they have enabled your Committee to supply special surgical appliances free of cost to men, women and children, and to ensure that patients, who require treatment, are admitted to Hospital without charge. Your Committee are most grateful for these practical responses to their efforts for support.

(b) Loans.			Applications		Number granted		Amount granted
K.R.R.C.	...	...	81	...	52	...	£1065
R.B.	...	...	80	...	52	...	£909

The Committee are satisfied that this system has helped a large number of men, many of whom are labouring under physical disabilities on account of their war services, to become self-supporting. The repayments are spread over long periods, and although the recipients have been, and are, greatly handicapped by the general depression of trade, the vast majority have been, and are, making the most strenuous efforts to repay. A sum of £940 has been repaid during the year under review. Your Committee consider this satisfactory.

V.

Pensions, Widows.—There are now 22 pensioners in The King's Royal Rifle Corps Branch, three having been added during the year, and 17 in the Rifle Brigade Branch, one pensioner having been admitted to a home and one pension having lapsed. The annual payments of these pensions involve £251 and £202 respectively.

VI.

Children.—Children have been placed in the following schools during the year through the Society:—

		K.R.R.C.		R.B.
Duke of York's Royal Military School	...	1	...	—
Gordon Boys' Home		1	...	—
Royal Soldiers' Daughters' Home		1	...	1
United Service Home for Girls, Devonport		—	...	1

VII.

Advice and Information.—Large numbers of men and many widows and dependants have applied to the Society for advice and information, and 1271 such cases have been dealt with during the year in connection with pensions, gratuities, final settlements, medical treatment, treatment allowances, training, grants from Government Funds, land settlement, etc.

Your Committee again wish to express their gratitude to the Officer i/c. Rifle Records, to Officers i/c. other Record Offices, and to the Regimental Paymaster, Winchester, for the help so freely and promptly given, also to the many secretaries of the Local War Pensions Committees, and Managers of the Branches of the Ministry of Labour throughout the Kingdom for the sympathetic and, in the vast majority of cases, favourable consideration which they have given to the cases brought to their notice by the Society.

Your Committee are also indebted to many voluntary organisations for their kind co-operation and help in numerous cases, especially in London, where many urgent cases of acute

distress have, with the help of these Societies and the use of the telephone, been relieved in a few hours.

The importance of assistance under this heading and the advantage of having the Headquarters of the Society in London were strongly emphasised during the year, the number of personal interviews being 3112, an increase of 500 over the previous year, and of almost 2000 more than the year 1919.

VIII.

Emigration and Land Settlement.—Twenty applicants for emigration registered during the year and were dealt with in co-operation with the Overseas Settlement Department and the High Commissioners of the Dominions selected. When necessary, grants were obtained from the Joint Committee of the Overseas Settlement Department. In other cases grants and loans were made by the Society to enable emigrants to purchase clothing, bedding, etc.

Owing to the fact that large numbers of their own men are suffering from want of employment, the Overseas Dominions are now only accepting a very limited number of men, and these men must possess special qualifications or be prepared to work on the land, and in addition be nominated by a friend or relative in the Dominion concerned. The Joint Committee have also closed down their Assistance Fund, but in both cases, these measures are only temporary.

IX.

Advisory Committee.—The Advisory Committee appointed for the current year, composed of representatives of the Regular Battalions at home, and of the Rifle Depot, met at Winchester on 14th July, 1921, under the Chairmanship of Colonel J. D. Heriot Maitland, Commanding Rifle Depot.

The meeting was addressed by Lieut.-General Sir Edward Hutton, Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee, who commented upon the scope and further development of the Society, and the work it had been carrying out in assisting Riflemen of "good" character and their wives and families. Sir Edward stated that the Executive Committee were careful to maintain the principle of the Society that the present critical period following upon a long and peculiarly terrible war was essentially the time for utilising the resources of the Society placed at their disposal. While exercising due care and a proper economy, the future could take care of itself.

The Riflemen's Aid Society was the essence of that spirit of comradeship between all ranks of Riflemen, of which both

Regiments are so justly proud and tenacious. Their Society was based upon sympathy, and would always remain so. All good Riflemen are welcome to its privileges.

The Chairman, Colonel Heriot Maitland, invited suggestions for making the objects and work of the Society better known, and several practical suggestions were made by members of the Committee and fully discussed. It was finally decided to submit three of the suggestions to the Executive Committee for consideration.

Your Committee are very pleased to note the interest which the members of the Advisory Committee have shown in the efforts of the Society, and welcome the very practical suggestions made. These suggestions have been duly considered and adopted.

X.

Officers.—The Society has dealt with the cases of 48 officers during the year, and the personal services of the Staff have been placed at their disposal. Advice and information regarding pensions, treatment, treatment allowances, etc., have been given with satisfactory results, and in cases of distress recommendations have been made confidentially to the Officers' Association, which have received favourable consideration. In four cases employment has been found for ex-officers, and the other cases referred to the Employment Branch of the Officers' Association.

XI.

The Ladies' Guild of The King's Royal Rifle Corps and Rifle Brigade.

(a) The system of "Riflemen's Friends" still continues to be a great success, and is of the utmost value to the Society. The visits of the ladies who so kindly undertook the work are much appreciated by ex-Riflemen and their families, and your Committee are more than grateful to these ladies for their personal and sympathetic interest in all cases and for their successful efforts on behalf of the families which they so kindly visit.

(b) Your Committee also wish to tender their sincere thanks to Mrs. Fortescue, the Hon. Mrs. Gough, and Mrs. Moore (K.R.R.C), and to Miss Nowell Salmon (Rifle Brigade), for their kind help and co-operation in providing and dispatching clothing from the Ladies' Guilds in cases recommended by the Committee. These garments have been a great boon, and your Committee hope that an even more plentiful supply will be available for

the year 1922. 794 garments have been dispatched by the K.R.R.C. Guild, and 739 by the R.B. Guild during the year. In addition, 352 garments have been issued direct by the Riflemen's Aid Society.

XII.

Finance.—Heavy expenses had to be met in connection with the Riflemen's Cottages at Winchester during the year, partly on account of the increase in rates, but principally owing to the fact that repairs, painting and re-decorating, postponed from 1914, on account of the War, had to be carried out.

It will be noted in paragraphs I and IV that very heavy calls have been made upon the funds of the Society during the year, and your Committee have been therefore compelled, in accordance with the policy of the Society, to realise a portion of the reserve funds which they had previously placed to capital account. The necessity was fully and carefully considered in the early part of the year, and your Committee, from the figures at their disposal, and from previous experience, then estimated that they would require approximately the following sums to supplement income:—

K.R.R.C. Branch	...	...	...	£330
R.B. Branch	...	...	...	£1035

This estimate proved to be remarkably correct; the actual amounts disbursed in excess of income being:—

K.R.R.C. Branch	...	...	...	£184
R.B. Branch	...	...	...	£1115

Due, however, to several donations received during the year, the total assets of the Society now amount to:—

K.R.R.C.	...	...	...	£38,957
Rifle Brigade	...	...	...	£15,348

Total ... £53,905

as against £53,789 on 31st December, 1920, an increase of £116.

Your Committee are pleased to be able to report that the annual subscriptions, in spite of a general financial depression, have been slightly increased, and the total income for the year amounted to £4871, an increase of £252 over the year 1920.

It is hardly to be expected that the year will very materially improve as regards demands upon the funds of the Society, but your Committee feel confident that they will be able to meet them in a similar manner as in 1921.

During the present unprecedented industrial depression with all its attendant hardships, it is of paramount importance

to assist and alleviate all the numerous deserving cases brought to notice in as generous a manner as possible, without prejudice to the future welfare and efficiency of the Society.

XIII.

Winchester Committee.—This Committee continues to do very useful work, and your Committee desire to express their obligations to Colonel J. D. Heriot Maitland, Chairman, and to the members of the Local Committee for their consistent and kindly attention to all cases in Winchester and district. Your Committee also acknowledge with deep gratitude the continued and highly satisfactory efforts made by Mrs. Leonard Russell in the interest of ex-Riflemen, their families and widows in the district. The kindly and sympathetic interest which this lady at all times displays in cases brought to her notice, and her practical suggestions for mitigation of distress, are always of the greatest possible assistance to the Society.

XIV.

Proposals.—The following proposals were forwarded under date of 24th July, 1921, by Lieut.-Colonel Sir Hereward Wake, Bt., C.M.G., D.S.O., Commanding 4th Battalion The King's Royal Rifle Corps, in consultation with the other three Officers Commanding Rifle Battalions in India, for consideration by your Committee:—

(1) *Rule I.*—That the name of the Society should be changed.

(2) *Rule IV.*—That the words "Warrant and N.C.O.'s and Riflemen" should be inserted after the word "officers," the result of which, if adopted, would be that all ranks now serving would have the right to subscribe to the funds of the Society.

These proposals received the most careful attention and earnest thought, and your Committee unanimously decided as follows:—

(1) *Rule I.*—That a change would be inadvisable, as the existing name sufficiently and correctly covers the objects for which the Society is created.

(2) *Rule IV.*—That to permit contributions from serving Riflemen would not be to the real advantage of the Society, and might be a cause of disappointment and misunderstanding.

Your Committee framed a comprehensive minute dealing with these two proposals, giving in detail their reasons for the above decisions, copies of this minute, with an explanatory covering letter were sent to the Officers Commanding all Regular Battalions, to the Officer Commanding the Rifle Depot, and to all others concerned.

XV.

Executive Committee.—The following members retire according to rule, but are eligible for immediate re-election :—

The King's Royal Rifle Corps.

Brig.-General R. S. Oxley, C.B., C.M.G.

Rifle Brigade.

Brig.-General Earl of Lucan, K.B.E., C.B.

Celer et Audax Club.

Brig.-General W. S. Kays, C.M.G.

Rifle Brigade Club.

Major R. G. C. Glyn, M.C., M.P.

By order of the Committee,

W. JUDGE, Lieut.-Colonel,

Secretary.

71, Eccleston Square,
1st February, 1922.

THE LADIES' GUILD OF THE KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS

Founded 1906.

Patron :

HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARY.

CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR 1921.

President :

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS CHRISTIAN.

Vice-President :

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS BEATRICE.

Members of Council :

LADY DAVIS.

MRS. FARMER.

THE HON. MRS. GOUGH.

LADY HUTTON.

THE HON. MRS. LEITH.

MRS. OXLEY.

MRS. L. PRICE-DAVIES.

MRS. CHARLES SEYMOUR.

THE LADY STAMFORDHAM.

THE HON. LADY STUART-
WORTLEY.

Hon. Treasurer :

MRS. GERALD MARTIN.

Hon. Secretary :

MRS. F. A. FORTESCUE.

The Commanding Officer's wife of each Regular Battalion or a lady nominated by him to represent the Battalion.

REPORT, 1920-1921.

The Council meet annually, and a General Annual Meeting of all Members of the Guild is held to receive Reports of the work done during the year.

The Ladies' Guild forms a Central Association undertaking all women's work connected with the Regiment, and it is therefore very desirable that all ladies interested in the Regiment should become Members.

They can join as Vice-Presidents, who form groups of five or more Associates, or as an Associate on the Hon. Secretary's list.

Subscription (Vice-Presidents without Associates, 15s.; Vice-Presidents, with five Associates, 2s. 6d.; Associates, 1s.) to be sent to the Hon. Treasurer by January 1st annually:—

MRS. GERALD MARTIN,

20, LOWNDES STREET, S.W. 1.

All correspondence to Hon. Secretary:—

MRS. F. A. FORTESCUE,
PENNS PLACE,
HAMPTON-ON-THAMES.

Marked to be forwarded.

The Hon. Secretary begs to present the Fifteenth Annual Report of The King's Royal Rifle Corps Ladies' Guild.

A revised List of Members of the Guild has been compiled. The Roll for 1921 numbers 283 Members, of whom 60 are Vice-Presidents and 119 Riflemen's friends.

The Hon. Mrs. Gough and Mrs. Charles Seymour have succeeded Mrs. Buchanan Riddell and Mrs. William Barnett as Members of the Central Council.

The question has been asked rather frequently of late: "What work can the Guild do in peace time?" Each Member of the Guild can do most useful work by—

(1) Keeping the organisation intact, which has proved so invaluable during the last fifteen years. To enlist the wives and relations of all those interested in the Regiment is the only possible guarantee for the survival of the Guild.

(2) By undertaking to become a "Rifleman's Friend" to all discharged Riflemen in her neighbourhood. Colonel Judge, Secretary of the Riflemen's Aid, or the Hon. Secretary will gladly receive the names of those willing to help in this way.

(3) By contributing Clothing to the Riflemen's Aid Society, for women and children. These are distributed in accordance with the request of their Committee among families of discharged, disabled or distressed Riflemen, and, we are assured, prove of very great value to them. The letters of acknowledgment are most touching in their gratitude.

It is, therefore, disappointing to report that only 769 garments were received since last July, but 875 were sent out. Twice the number would have been distributed had they been available.

The most grateful thanks of the Guild are due to Miss Chenevix Trench, who has most successfully carried out the work of the Clothing Branch during the last year, with the assistance latterly of the Hon. Mrs. Gough.

The Guild has spent £30 on clothing and material, and gives further donations as required.

The Annual General Meeting for 1921, fixed for June 7th at the Hyde Park Hotel, was unavoidably postponed after all arrangements had been made. Though deeply regretted, this was inevitable in view of the difficulties entailed by the industrial situation.

It is considered necessary to close the accounts for Subscriptions annually on December 31st. All Vice-Presidents and Associates are asked kindly to send their subscriptions for 1921 before that date to:—

MRS. GERALD MARTIN, *Hon. Treasurer*,
20, LOWNDES STREET,
LONDON, S.W. 1.

At the Annual Meeting of last year it was decided to form a Ladies' Guild Tea Club, and to hold a reception after the Annual Meeting.

The Committee of Management for 1921 consist of Mrs. Price-Davies, Mrs. Charles Seymour, Lady Lees, Mrs. Knox Gore, and Mrs. G. Moore, *Hon. Secretary*.

It is earnestly hoped the Club will prove a success. With Battalions so scattered, two in Ireland, two in India, time tends to drift us all apart, and an Annual Meeting of those once so united, now often so widely sundered, must, by bringing us all together, strengthen the link which is the chief object of the Ladies' Guild.

MARY TERESA FORTESCUE,
Hon. Secretary.
Penns Place,
Hampton-on-Thames.
July 1st, 1921.

The following letters were circulated with a view to increasing the Membership of the Guild:—

“ Dear Madam,

“ The Ladies' Guild of The King's Royal Rifle Corps now numbers about 300 Ladies connected with the Regiment.

“ Our Patron is H.M. The Queen, wife of our Colonel-in-Chief; our Presidents are Their Royal Highnesses The Princess Christian and The Princess Beatrice, both of whom have had sons who have fought in the Regiment.

“ For sixteen years the Guild has done invaluable work for The King's Royal Rifle Corps, having provided supplies of clothing and help for wives and families of Riflemen; while during the War no Regiment was better cared for, whether by visiting wounded Riflemen in the hospitals, by the care of the Prisoners, or by sending comforts to the Front.

“ All this work was originally organised by the Ladies' Guild, and we now wish to carry on our work in peace time by helping discharged and invalided Riflemen and their families, and the widows and orphans of those who have fallen in the War.

“ Will you join us as a Member of the Guild ?

" You can help us by consenting to act as a Rifleman's friend in your neighbourhood, and by contributing the clothing for families of distressed and discharged Riflemen so urgently required by the Riflemen's Aid Society.

" It is very desirable that all women connected with the Regiment should join this great organisation, bound together by the link of mutual work for the benefit of past and present Riflemen and their families.

" Yours truly,

" MARY TERESA FORTESCUE,

" Penns Place,

" *Hon. Secretary.*

" Hampton-on-Thames."

" Dear Madam,

" May I ask you to enrol your name as a Rifleman's Friend for your neighbourhood? No special reports are asked for; but it is felt that the personal link will be much appreciated by Riflemen, who will realise that their services are never forgotten by their Regiment.

" Visitors registering their names with Colonel Judge, Secretary, The Riflemen's Aid Society, will be sent (direct from The Riflemen's Aid Society) the address and particulars of any case in their neighbourhood which may require assistance.

" It is not intended that any ' Rifleman's Friend ' should personally assist pecuniarily any cases that may appear to require such relief, but that they should report the circumstances to and advise the Committee of ' The Riflemen's Aid Society ' as to the best method of assistance.

" Such assistance can be extended financially by loans or donations; by votes or nominations for schools, hospitals, and convalescent homes; or in obtaining situations and employment for Riflemen, their wives, or children.

" I trust that *all* Members of the Guild will, by consenting to become a Rifleman's Friend, render this very valuable assistance to the Guild and to the Regiment.

" Yours truly,

" MARY TERESA FORTESCUE,

" Penns Place,

" *Hon. Secretary.*

" Hampton-on-Thames."

OBITUARY

GENERAL SIR JOHN COWANS, G.C.M.G., G.C.B.

Our sympathies go out to our brother Riflemen of The Rifle Brigade in the loss they have sustained by the death of General Sir John Cowans, one of the most distinguished soldiers that either Regiment of Rifles has ever produced, which occurred on April 16th, 1921, at Mentone, where he had gone to recuperate after an operation.

Cowans joined The Rifle Brigade from Sandhurst in 1881 and after grading at the Staff College was appointed Staff Captain at the War Office. He first showed the brilliant power he possessed when performing the duties of D.A.Q.M.G. at the War Office in 1898, having control of the transport and movement of troops. His reputation was further enhanced during the South African War, when personnel and war material were shipped to South Africa on a hitherto unprecedented scale. After passing through various staff appointments at Aldershot, Lord Kitchener recognised his great abilities and made him Director-General of Military Education and later Director of Training and Staff Duties in India.

Being promoted Major-General in 1910, he was summoned home and given the appointment of Director-General of the Territorial Forces at the War Office and filled this office with marked success. Two years later he was chosen to fill the vacant appointment of Quartermaster-General, so that on the outbreak of the Great War the State was lucky to have the services of such an admirable administrator to deal with the transport, supply and equipment of the land forces.

The transformation of this country into a great military power within the space of two years was its finest feat as a member of the Entente and in the achievement of that object the Quartermaster-General's Department played a foremost part.

Cowans' valuable services during this crisis in our history were recognised by his being promoted Lieut.-General in 1915 and given the G.C.M.G. in 1918. On the final distribution of honours for the War he was promoted full General and received the G.C.B., being also nominated Grand Officer of the Legion of Honour, of the Belgian Order of the Crown and of the Italian Order of the Crown and other high decorations from the Allies. Thus did the Allies do honour to this great Rifleman.

When not engaged with his gigantic task at the War Office, Jack Cowans, as he was always known amongst his host of friends both in and out of the Service, was the life and soul of many a social gathering, and his death has caused a gap which will be hard to fill.

Lieut.-General Sir W. Pitcairn Campbell and Lieut.-General Sir Edward Hutton attended the funeral and Requiem Service, representing the Regiment. A special wreath was sent, also a telegram of sympathy by Lord Grenfell to Sir Neville Lyttleton, as a token of our respect to the memory of a man who did so much for his country in her hour of need.

MAJOR-GENERAL

HENRY BLACKWOOD MAC CALL, C.B.

The death occurred on Friday, July 22nd, 1921, of Major-General H. B. MacCall, after a long illness. The son of the late Colonel George MacCall, he was born in 1845 and educated at Eton, and entered the Army in 1864. General MacCall saw most of his service in India, and joined the 4th Battalion as a Major at Ferozepore in 1880, having previously acted as A.D.C. to Sir Paul Haines, Commander-in-Chief in India.

He was appointed to command the 1st Battalion in 1892, and was in command of that Battalion during the Isazai Expedition and subsequently when it formed part of the Chitral Relief Force, 1895, where his work earned him a mention in Despatches and the C.B. Later he was D.A.G. of the Punjab Forces and of a Second Class District in India; in 1915 he was given the command of a Division, and subsequently retired.

To all his old friends in the Regiment the death of "Jackal," as he was always called, will recall many happy days of soldiering in India when service in that country was at its best. Possessed of a charming personality combined with a determined character he was as popular as he was successful. Aided by a fine baritone voice he was an amateur actor of distinction, and his dancing and rendering of French songs the leading feature of the many productions which, together with Hobday of the Gunners, he organized when serving with the 4th Battalion at Ferozepore.

A good shot and a fine horseman he possessed all the qualities which go to make an ideal Commanding Officer, and those who had the luck to serve with him will not forget him.

He married in 1885 Miss G. M. Farquharson, of Langton House, Blandford.

MAJOR JOHN DWANE.

The death of John Dwane on February 19th came as a great shock to his many friends in and out of the Regiment.

Son of the Sergt.-Major of the 1st Battalion, John Dwane was the eldest of a very successful family. He soon made his mark in the Regiment and rose first to be Sergt.-Major of 1st Battalion and then Quartermaster of the same Battalion, transferring in 1899 to the 2nd Battalion in the same capacity. On his retirement in June, 1908, he settled down at Winchester to live with his sister, Mrs. Riley, widow of Tim Riley, the well-known Quartermaster of the Rifle Depot, and until his death was Secretary of the Riflemen's Aid Society and Treasurer of the Greenjackets.

There have been few members of the 60th during the last forty years who were better known and more loved than John Dwane. Being a bachelor he lived in the Mess, and it is safe to say that he was always the most popular member of every Mess of which he was a member. Always cheery under the most trying circumstances and unselfish to the last degree, he was consequently a delightful companion and in addition he was the keenest of sportsmen, so that whenever a shooting party was mooted the first

idea was always "Let's get John Dwane." The writer well remembers a trip he took with John Dwane to the great Hindu Fair at Hurdwar in 1896, and how thoroughly Dwane enjoyed the whole thing and how keen his interest was in the Fair. He had excellent taste and before the wreck of the *Warren Hastings* had made a very good collection of Oriental carpets, all of which were lost in the wreck. Of his soldierly qualities it is almost unnecessary to speak, so well known were they in the Regiment. Suffice it to say that as a colleague he was ideal and as a Quartermaster his untiring industry, his high ideal of duty, his accuracy, and above all his sound sense and the way he always put the interests of the Regiment before all else formed a combination which is rarely equalled. The following is a good example of his energy and devotion:—

When the Winchester Barracks were burned down in 1894 John Dwane, who was on leave from India, was staying with his brother-in-law, Riley, Quartermaster of the Depot. Riley broke a tendon in his leg on the night of the fire and was *hors de combat* in consequence, so Dwane carried on from sheer love of work. After the Depot had moved to the Portsdown Forts and John's work was done he left it. At his departure the Guard, on their own initiative, turned out and gave him a "General Salute." I doubt if such a compliment has ever been paid either before or since to a Quartermaster.

Everyone knows how important a good Quartermaster is on service and those who were in the Battalion of which John Dwane was Quartermaster could always feel that his branch of the business would be as good as it possibly could be and that nothing would be left to chance. His career was indeed an example to Riflemen of all ranks, and his memory will always remain fresh in the hearts of the many friends who knew and loved him.

LIEUT.-COLONEL TIMOTHY O'SHEA, D.S.O.

One of the finest types of Riflemen that the Regiment has produced passed away in August of this year in the person of Lieut.-Colonel Tim O'Shea. Born in January

1856, he joined the Regiment in 1874, and after passing through the junior ranks with distinction he was promoted to be Sergt.-Major of the 4th Battalion in 1884, and his knowledge of drill and gift for maintaining discipline assisted to keep up the high standard of efficiency which that Battalion has always reached. In January 1894 he was promoted to Quartermaster and left the Regiment and the Regular Army in 1910. He was awarded the Burmah Medal in 1891, and also saw service in the South African War, where he was mentioned in Despatches and received the King's Medal. O'Shea's activities did not cease with his retirement from the Regiment, as he was appointed Quartermaster to the 9th Battalion London Regiment, Queen Victoria Rifles, at the end of 1910 and Secretary to the General Purposes Committee. His good qualities and happy, cheery manner soon won all hearts amongst his new comrades-in-arms.

On a general mobilization being ordered on the outbreak of the Great War, Tim O'Shea was in his element and soon showed what stuff he was made of; indeed, he had ample opportunity, as his Battalion on August 4th, 1914, was only 500 strong; in twenty-four hours it was recruited to full war strength, and in forty-eight hours enough men had enlisted to form another Battalion. This was a great strain on the Quartermaster's department, but he was equal to it, and the Battalion was completely armed, equipped and ready to move in six days. In the hard school of war he was a tower of strength to the Queen Victoria Rifles. Going out on November 4th, 1914, he served throughout the War; his energy was unceasing, his coolness and courage under fire remarkable and his devotion to duty and love for his Battalion an example to all. He was invalided home in August 1918, worn out and exhausted, but his cheery spirit never deserted him until the day of his death. As a fitting reward for his services during the War he was awarded the D.S.O., being the first Quartermaster to receive that order, and no officer could have deserved it more.

As an example of his energy and resource the following anecdote, which is narrated by his C.O., is worth recording:

"During the Somme offensive of 1916 a certain Division was hurriedly sent up from some way back to the front in support, one of the Brigades being dumped in our area with-

out any rations. The G.O.C. sent all round to units to try and procure two days' rations for this Brigade, but without avail. He then sent for Tim and asked him if he could possibly find 4000 rations. 'Oh, yes, Sir,' said Tim, 'how long will you give me to find them?' 'Five or six hours,' said the G.O.C. Tim was off in the Battalion buggy with the necessary transport and returned in the required time with the number of rations wanted."

MAJOR F. W. PARISH, D.S.O., M.C.

Major Francis Woodbine Parish, D.S.O., M.C., who died on October 18th, 1921, in the Victorian Hospital, Montreal, at the age of 87, was the second son of the late Charles Woodbine Parish and the Hon. Mrs. Parish. He joined The King's Royal Rifle Corps from the Militia in 1904. For two years from 1910 he was Aide-de-Camp to Lord Gladstone, the first Governor-General of South Africa. On his return home in April 1912 he was married at St. Margaret's, Westminster, to Lord Gladstone's niece, Miss Dorothy Drew, only daughter of the late Canon Henry Drew, Rector of Hawarden, and the favourite grandchild of W. E. Gladstone.

In November 1918 Captain Parish was appointed Adjutant of the 15th Battalion, London Regiment (Civil Service Rifles), with whom he served in London, at St. Albans, and with the 47th Division in France, until his appointment in December 1915 as G.S.O.3 of the 19th Division. During the autumn of 1916 he was in command of the 8th Battalion, North Staffordshire Regiment, and was severely wounded in the head by a bomb explosion, suffering injuries from which he never fully recovered. On return to duty he became an instructor at the Senior Officers' School at Aldershot, where he remained till the end of 1917, with an interval of a few months in the summer, when he returned to Flanders to command the Civil Service Rifles, then in the Ypres salient. His energy and keenness and his knowledge of and enthusiasm for the Battalion had even in so short a time an effect on its *esprit de corps* which lasted till the end of the War, for Parish won the

love of all who served with him. His health, however, was not yet sufficiently restored to stand the strain of service in the line, and he was again invalided home. He returned to his old Division, the 47th, during the retreat in March 1918 and commanded the 17th London Regiment until July.

After the War he was one of the first students to pass through the Staff College, and last May he was appointed Brigade Major of the 2nd London Infantry Brigade. A good sportsman, a cheerful companion, and a keen soldier, he will be missed by a very wide circle of friends.

A Requiem and Memorial Service was held at the Grosvenor Chapel, South Audley Street, on October 20th, and attended by Lieut.-General Sir Edward Hutton and Lieut.-General Sir W. Pitcairn Campbell representing the Regiment, together with a detachment of officers and other ranks from the Rifle Depot and the Civil Service Rifles. At the conclusion of the Service the Buglers sounded the Last Post and Reveillé, with impressive effect.

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